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Israel's
new
man
in
Ottawa
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Israelis speak out: an insider's view of life under siege

By Kimmerel Globerman

We see the horror on TV. We read the dispatches in the newspapers. But do we really know what it feels like to be under siege – to have had our world turned inside out? We may have an idea, but Israelis know and live the reality. The *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* interviewed a few of them to find out just what that reality is.

Mel Rosenberg left Ottawa for Israel on a one-year habonim ("hachshara" program. It was 1969, he was almost 18, he fell in love with the country and decided to stay. He is now a professor of microbiology at Tel Aviv

University, married with two teenaged children.

"Israel has changed a lot since I came," he says, "some things for the better, others for the less better."

Even so, he does not regret his decision to make aliyah over 30 years ago.

"I'm happy I did come," he says, "because i feel naturally Jewish here, my kids speak Hebrew, and I've had quite an exciting life here."

"In Canada, Judaism is more of a religious thing and [even so] is slowly evaporating, kids are intermarrying ... Here, we have a

much more visceral Jewish existence.

"Here, being Jewish is like breathing the air. It's part of everything you do."

Rosenberg acknowledges that his family has had to adjust to the new reality. His children are afraid to take buses; he's afraid to let them travel without him.

"The truth is, though, that there is still more of a risk of being involved here in a tragic accident than in a terror incident," says Jim Shalom.

Shalom also left Ottawa for Israel at 18 to study at Hebrew University. He returned to Canada, studied medicine at the University of

Western Ontario and worked in a small town as a family doctor before returning to Israel for good to settle in the Upper Galilee. He has worked, and continues to work, closely with Arabs. While he and his family live in a relatively safe area, they are not unjured to the changes Israel has undergone.

"The last two years have been painful, dangerous and have caused a fair amount of soul-searching," he says. "It has been the end of the dream; actually, two dreams. The political left was convinced that if we were decent, respectful and fair enough vis à vis, the

(Continued on page 2)

Unique ways Chanukah is celebrated worldwide

By Benita Baker

Chanukah is the Jewish Christmas. Let's face it. How many times have we found ourselves in situations where we clumsily explain our Jewish holiday. Christmas can be an awkward time of year for Jews. So maybe we overcompensate with presents and get caught up in "the spirit of the season" but we also know that Chanukah is so much more than a Jewish response to a world obsessed with Christmas.

The real meaning of Chanukah is not about giving presents. It is about celebrating heroism, courage and religious freedom. And when it comes to heroes and holiday symbols, Judah Maccabee far surpasses Santa Claus as a role model.

The spirit and meaning of Chanukah took on new meaning when Israel became a state. The early Israeli settlers saw themselves as modern day Maccabees and they rallied around the symbolism of Chanukah. Each year on the first day of Chanukah, athletes gather at the graves of the Maccabees in Modin. They light a torch there and begin a

relay race, handing it off from one to another, until the torch arrives in Jerusalem where the President lights the menorah at the Presidential Palace. The torch is also taken to Mount Zion where it is used to light menorahs in memory of Holocaust victims.

The traditional Chanukah food in Israeli is *sufganiyot*, fried jelly-filled doughnuts. In 1997, near the Israeli town of Afula, a 12 foot high pyramid consisting of 6,400 *sufganiyot* was erected in an attempt to get into the Guinness Book of Records.

In an equally remarkable undertaking that same year, a 60 foot tall menorah weighing 17 metric tons was built in the town of Latrun. Each night of the holiday, a rabbi had to be lifted by crane to light the candles.

Menorahs in public places and public candle lighting ceremonies are becoming more prevalent throughout the world. Lighting the National Menorah in Washington is an occasion attended even by the US President. In New York City's Central Park

(Continued on page 2)



FAIRER

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Happy Chanukah!



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Unique ways Chanukah is celebrated worldwide

(Continued from page 1)

a 32 foot high menorah is lit each year, also with the help of a crane.

In their attempt to reach out to Jews and spread the message of religious freedom the Lubavitch are behind many of these ceremonies, including two local events. This is the 13th year

that the Canadian Friends of Chabad Lubavitch have organized a menorah-lighting ceremony on Parliament Hill. The Ottawa Torah Chabad is hosting the 5th annual Chanukah celebration at the former city hall on Centrepointe Drive. Last year over 200 people attended this popular event.

As they have done with other Jewish holidays, communities throughout the world and throughout time have given meaning to Chanukah with their own unique rituals and customs. Many Sephardic Chanukah traditions differ from the Ashkenazic. In a Sephardic home only the head of the household lights the Chanukah candles.

Contrary to the Ashkenazic way, the shamash is lit last and is not used to light the other candles.

Jews from the Syrian town of Aleppo light an extra shamash candle every night of Chanukah as a gesture of thanks to their country for giving a home to their ancestors when they were expelled from Spain. Turkish Jews make candles from the flax fibers used to wrap the etrog. The remains of these Chanukah candles are then melted together to make another candle used to search for bread crumbs pre-Passover.

Many Sephardic Chanukah traditions focus on children and on charity. In Kurdistan and Iraq, children would make an effigy of Antiochus and carry it from door to door collecting food donations. The effigy is thrown into a bonfire on the last day of Chanukah. Children in Yemen are given a coin each day to buy sugar and a red powder that is used to make a wine-like beverage which they drink at a giant evening feast.

Chanukah has special meaning for Sephardic women. For them the heroes of Chanukah are Hannah, who watched her seven sons die because they would not bow down to idols, and Judith, who severed the head of the cruel Greek ruler causing the enemy soldiers to flee. In their honour, women do not work while the Chanukah candles are lit. Instead of eating foods fried in oil on Chanukah, Sephardim eat dairy food to remember that Judith defeated the Greek tyrant because she fed him cheese and wine until he fell asleep.

Since Chanukah is not a holy day, some Jews do not celebrate it all. Abera Minyab did not know about Chanukah until she immigrated to Israel from Ethiopia. In Soviet Russia, lighting candles was a conspicuous religious act that few Jews would risk. Even if they wanted to celebrate Chanukah, it was against the law to manufacture and sell candles.

No account of holiday traditions would be complete without a heartwarming story about celebrations during the Holocaust. In 1943, the inmates at Bergen-Belsen were determined to celebrate Chanukah. The men saved scraps of fat from their food rations to make candles and the women pulled threads from their clothes and twisted them into wicks. Half of a raw potato became the menorah. This courageous act honouring the courageous acts of our ancestors must have given them strength and hope. That is the essence of Chanukah.

B.S.O.
The Jewish community is cordially invited to attend
a lecture on Tuesday, November 26 @ 8:00 pm
at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre.

Rabbi Yossi Jacobson is the keynote speaker for the 8th Yahrzeit/Hillula of the Lubavitcher Rebbe. Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson. Rabbi Jacobson will be speaking on "The Rebbe's Vision of Peace." There is no charge for this lecture. For more information, please call Nina Davidson @ 825-3703.

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Ottawa Jewish

bulletin

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Chanukah Fun for Preschoolers

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Open letter from Dr. Norman Barwin

Dear Friends,

As I write this letter, our 2003 UJA community campaign is about to enter into its final stage. We continue as a dynamic and vibrant community. We live our lives and go about our business whether the campaign is happening, or not. The key difference, however, is the quality of that life.

To date, our campaign has raised a total of \$2,242,000. This constitutes about 88 per cent of our projected target. This target can only be reached by everyone contributing 15 per cent more than last year.

To all of those community members who have answered the call of this community by pledging their support, thank you. To those who still wish to make a pledge and have not been contacted by a canvasser, please help us further by phoning in your pledge to the UJA office at 798-4696.

The sooner this campaign is completed, the sooner we can direct your contribution to those who need it most.

Yet, despite incredible support, we still have much more work to do. Members of our own community are depending on us; and the people of Israel are looking to us to stand by them in this desperate hour.

- On a local level there are still unmet needs, just a few are;
- Hillel Academy requires increased support for special education,
- Jewish Family Services is seeking funding for poverty assistance programs, and
- The feeding program at Hillel Lodge needs our serious attention.
- Yitzchak Rabin High School requires fund to assist needy students.

Despite these pressing needs at home, the situation in Israel is even more acute. As terrorists continue to strike fear in the general population, the country's economy is in shambles. Unemployment rates are high and one in five Israelis is living below the poverty line. Social service budgets are being drastically reduced affecting every generation.

The threat of a renewed assault on Iraq will strike yet another blow to Israel's economy and security. The Israel Relief Fund has raised \$570,000 to date, with a goal of one million dollars. The UJA is about people not governments or military. The money raised through this fund will support agencies that provide medical and psychological support for victims and families, provide security guards at schools to protect the children, and other initiatives designed to help the Israeli People.

The need is clear, the time to act is now.

The Ottawa Jewish Community must continue to wear with pride, the loving concern and the determined involvement that have always characterized our commitment to Klal Yisrael.

In these trying times, there is no one else to turn to. We are "One Community with One Commitment."

B'shalom,
Dr. Norman Barwin
2003 Campaign Chair

Matter for your mind

Nobody is ever impoverished through the giving of charity.
Maimonides

Do you know a quotation or short anecdote that reflects the UJA's ideals? Call 798-4696 ext. 246, or e-mail jlepow@jccottawa.com.

Caught in the web

Recently read on www.jewishottawa.org:

Canada's Policy On Funding Hezbollah Draws Fire

By Frances Kraft

Harvard law professor Alan Dershowitz plans to participate in academic conferences in Israel at least twice in the next few months, he told a capacity crowd last week...

To find out more, visit www.jewishottawa.org and go to the home page. You may also contribute to the UJA website by e-mailing your 100- to 300-word article to jlepow@jccottawa.com.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Aviv Festival and Walkathon is a Celebration of Jewish Life and Culture in Ottawa. The event will feature live music, entertainment for the kids, artisans, and an array of kosher cuisine. The Walkathon is to be an inter-generational event with a goal of 5,000 participants. This event will take place May 24th and 25th. The Festival committee is looking for volunteers to aid in the planning, promotion, and implementation of this special event. To get involved please call 798-4696, ext. 246 or email avifest@jccottawa.com.

The UJA Golf Tournament to be held in early July is looking for volunteers and sponsors. Last year's tournament was an astounding success bringing in \$60,000 for the community and Israel. For information on how to get involved email Shelli Kimmel at ujagolf@jccottawa.com.

The bottom line

Through the Israel Relief Fund, \$25,000 was given to NATAL, an organization that provides psychological counselling to people suffering from post-traumatic shock due to terror attacks.

Up and coming:

Missions to Israel

March 9-16
Family Mission
led by Steven and Shelli Kimmel

May 4-11
Community Mission

Save these Dates

May 24-25
Aviv Festival and Walkathon

July 7
UJA Golf Tournament

**DO YOU HAVE
ANY COMMENTS
ON THE FORMAT
OF OUR UJA PAGE,
OR DO YOU WISH
TO MAKE A PLEDGE?
CALL US
at 798-4696 ext. 250**

I lift up my eyes ...



Despite the war in Israel, Argentinean Jews are making aliyah in record numbers with federation support. More than 1440 in the first four months of 2002 compared to 1370 in all of 2001. Pictured here: A day care center in Kiryat Bialik.

Do you have an interesting story to tell? Please e-mail it to jlepow@jccottawa.com, or drop it off at the UJA office.

Reverend Leland stands up to New Brunswick Holocaust denier

By Diane Koven

Rev. James Leland was very happy with his life and work in rural New Brunswick, ministering to his United Church congregation in relative anonymity. Little did he suspect that his quiet, peaceful life would be interrupted and forever changed by the writings of fellow New Brunswick resident, school teacher Malcolm Ross.

Malcolm Ross is now

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well known as the Holocaust denier whose writings and classroom teachings inspired protests and law suits and a tremendous amount of media attention. Shocked and distraught by the complete silence and lack of response to Ross' early writings, Leland embarked on a journey for which he felt completely unprepared.

"I could not stand the silence. I waited awhile, but then I found myself in a dilemma," he said, "I did not feel qualified or skillful enough, did not feel that I knew enough to make a stance." He did, however, feel compelled to do some-

thing so he began by contacting Rabbi Spiro of Fredericton and studying about Judaism and its writings. He then began a letter writing campaign to churches, newspapers, the provincial teachers' union and government departments. He spoke out, organized protest marches and successfully lobbied the United Church to adopt an official position against racism and anti-Semitism: "Anti-Semitism is a sin and should be condemned."

Because of Rev. Leland's efforts, the province of New Brunswick instituted the teaching of Holocaust studies in its schools. "I felt that young people could be swayed by racists without the proper education," he said. "Because my concern is with racism in general, the Holocaust could be used as a model for tolerance for all."

The personal journey of one man has influenced

thousands. "When I entered into this, I didn't know anything about Judaism, didn't know any Jewish people, knew very little about the Holocaust, and I thought that anti-Semitism had died with the war," he said. "But I also learned that one individual can make a difference. I learned that the group that is being attacked needs the support of the community and we must reach out in solidarity and become friends with them. We must strongly condemn every act of anti-Semitism and racism and we must begin in our individual homes to teach tolerance and respect ... perhaps most important of all, we need to learn to love and not hate."

Rev. Leland, who now resides in Cumberland, spoke at South Ministry United Church as part of Holocaust Education Week. As part of the same program, Rabbi Ely Braun of Beth Shalom Synagogue shared his thoughts and feelings about his recent return to Germany, fifty years after leaving the land of his birth. In July of 2001, following a Rabbinic Mission to Berlin, Rabbi Braun was joined by his 86-year-old mother, his brother and sister-in-law for an emotional family trip to Poland and Belarus.



In memory of Kristallnacht

Penny Bar-Noy-Roodman and granddaughter Shira light a candle during the anniversary of Kristallnacht. The memorial service was part of the Holocaust Education Week held recently in Ottawa. A video of Bar-Noy-Roodman's experience of Kristallnacht was shown.

(Photo: Elly Bollegraaf)

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Israeli and Canadian scientists collaborate on cancer treatments

By David Aaron

The topic of the evening may have been scientific advances in the treatment of cancer, but the theme reinforced by both distinguished speakers was one of cooperation. On October 31, the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science presented a lecture by two leaders in the study of hormone therapy as a treatment for cancer. Dr. Norman Barwin, Ottawa region president of the Weizmann Institute, introduced the speakers and told the sizable audience gathered at Hillel Lodge that the evening's goal was to make science more accessible to the community, a key

objective of its namesake, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, renowned chemist and Israel's first president.

Two accomplished speakers, Professor Abraham Amsterdam of the Weizmann Institute, which is located in Rehovot, Israel, and Professor Fernand Labrie of Quebec City's Laval University, did a masterful job of making complex scientific advances in the fields of ovarian and prostate cancer research easily understandable to the broad range of individuals in attendance. The two researchers are currently collaborating on hormone therapy treatments at Laval, where Professor Amsterdam was

invited to spend a sabbatical with his Canadian colleague, Professor Amsterdam, who joined the Weizmann Institute in 1973 and has held visiting professorships at a number of prestigious institutions throughout the United States and Europe, explained that cancer research is a rapidly evolving area of inquiry. New technologies and advances in our understanding of the human body, such as the Human Genome Project, have produced a great sense of optimism within scientific and medical circles. He spoke with hope that new discoveries in non-conventional approaches to the treatment of cancer, such as hormone and genetic therapies, will eventually allow for more efficient detection and treatment of the disease.

Professor Fernand Labrie, who has been recognized as one of Canada's most distinguished medical scientists with numerous honours, including investiture as an Officer of the Order of Canada, gave the "Canadian per-



Prof. Abraham Amsterdam (left) and Prof. Fernand Labrie

spective" on what he agrees is a collaborative effort to advance the global understanding of cancer and its treatment options. He explained that such advances, and the greater public awareness that accompanies them, have drastically reduced the number of prostate cancer-related deaths over the last decade. The key has been the successful identification of prostate cancer at an early stage, while it is still localized in the body, through methods such as the testing of Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) levels in the blood-

stream. While such advances are reason for optimism, Professor Labrie hopes that the evolution of alternative therapies, made possible through collaborative research projects such as the one he is currently conducting with his Israeli counterpart on hormone therapy treatments, will one day be able to offer even more viable treatment options for cancer patients.

Throughout his career at the Weizmann Institute, Professor Amsterdam has collaborated with colleagues from around the world, including scientists from neighbouring Arab states,

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B.S.D. Chanukah Music and Craft Fun for Preschoolers

This is the second of a series of ads brought to you by the Jewish Preschool of the Arts, NOT located at the SJCC, but only five minutes away, at 192 Switzer Ave. (Carling and Kirkwood).

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Spin little dreidels, no, go, slow.
Spin little dreidels, jump so high
Spin little dreidels, reach for the sky.
Spin little dreidels, touch your nose
Spin little dreidels, stand on your toes.
Spin little dreidels, take a hop
Spin little dreidels, don't you stop.
Spin little dreidels, spin around
Spin little dreidels drop to the ground."

For an easy craft: cut up sponges in the shape of a dreidel. Have the children dip into temper paint and then sponge paint onto paper (also makes nice Chanukah giftwrap).

For more information on the Jewish Preschool of the Arts,
please call Devora Caytak @ 729 7712.

Join us every Friday at our Shabbat drop-in program from 9:30 am until 11:30 am.



Jacob Aaron is a student at the Jewish Preschool of the Arts.



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PLANT A TREE IN HONOUR
OF SOMEONE YOU LOVE!And they said it couldn't be done:
JNF creates a lake in the Negev

True, the recent floods in the Negev desert — the result of the first winter rains — caused some erosion and damage but they also brought joy to the hearts of Keren Kayemeth Leisrael-Jewish National Fund workers who had made a special effort to complete the construction of the Nahal Lavan reservoir before the beginning of winter.

The workers had been successful at finishing the reservoir in time. In fact, the reservoir has already filled up with runoff water that is being used to irrigate the fields of the Kadesh Barnea region communities on the Egyptian border. It is also being used to replenish underground water sources.

The reservoir, which collects water from Nahal Lavan, Nahal Nitza, and Nahal Ruth has a storage capacity of 1.5 million cubic metres of water.

Not long ago, the water filled up for the first time. The sight of a blue lake in the middle of the arid sand dunes truly seemed like a mirage. Hundreds of Negev inhabitants came to the breathtaking spot to view, with their own astonished eyes, the breathtaking scene. Some of the younger set waded into the miracle lake, fully clothed.

One ... Two ... Three become B'nai Mitzvah

Mazal Tov and Yasher Koach to Rebecca McKeercher, Kayla Kershman, and Zev Kershman three recent B'nai Mitzvah celebrants. The proud parents of each of these youngsters chose to add a meaningful dimension to the significant milestone by inscribing their child in the Sefer Bar/Bat Mitzvah. The Sefer Bar/Bar Mitzvah is housed in the Keren Kayemeth Leisrael offices in Jerusalem. Visitors to Israel are invited to stop in and request to see their names in this impressive book, which is filled with the names of B'nai Mitzvah throughout the Diaspora.

Golden Book Inscription

In honour of his Bar Mitzvah, Ryan David Goldberg, has been inscribed in the Golden Book by his proud parents, Reva and Ernie Goldberg.

On a daily basis you can plant trees for all occasions. An attractive card is sent to the recipient. To order, call the JNF office (798-2411).

My Three Selves author to speak at SJCC

By Pamela Rosenberg

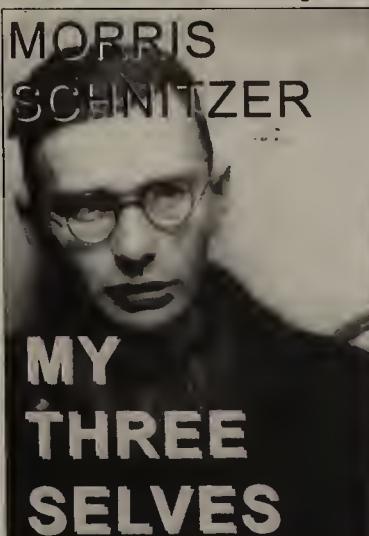
My Three Selves is the inspirational and touching story of a young German Jewish boy who through unbelievable determination and smarts managed to escape death, survive the Holocaust and go on to become an award winning scientist.

It was around 25 years ago that Dr. Morris Schnitzer first put pen to paper to write his memoirs, but it wasn't until a few weeks ago that he saw it for the first time as a published book.

"When I wrote the book there was no interest in it, people thought the Holocaust was far away and far removed. My late wife, Leah, tried to have it published in Canada the U.S. and Europe at the time," says Dr. Schnitzer. "The situation in the world has changed since I originally sought to have it published, everything is different, times are similar to the 1930's and the things happening in Israel remind me of what happened when I was a boy."

Dr. Schnitzer is the winner of the prestigious Wolf award for pioneering contributions to the understanding of the chemistry of soil organic matter and its application to agriculture, he is the first Canadian to receive a lifetime achievement award from the American Soil Science Society, he is a member of the Royal Society of Canada; he has taught at McGill, the Universities of Guelph and Saskatchewan and he is Science Emeritus at Agriculture Canada.

Dr. Schnitzer, a German Jew, spent the early years of his childhood in Bochum Germany with his parents and two younger brothers living what he describes in



his book as a rather privileged and happy life. His parents were hardworking and prosperous business owners of a general store selling household furnishings, boots, shoes and articles of clothing.

In *My Three Selves*, Dr. Schnitzer gives us a first hand account of the gradual degradation of the German society in which he lived and how he managed to escape concentration camps five times, something he attributes partially to his youthfulness.

While many of the books about the Holocaust are stories of Poland and Auschwitz, Dr. Schnitzer tells the tale of the rise of Hitler from the beginning. He was born in Germany in 1922 and was 10 years old when Hitler came to power. As a young boy Dr. Schnitzer witnessed the building of

look at the way the Germans behave you have to laugh, it's absurd, some of the stories are unbelievable."

Dr. Schnitzer has written chemistry books in the past. He claims not to be a literary type, instead preferring to use the same style to write *My Three Selves* as he does when writing a scientific paper. It is not deep and philosophical but simple. "I describe what happened like I am describing an experiment in chemistry, very precise descriptions, simple and straight forward so people can understand."

The book is called *My Three Selves* because over the years Dr. Schnitzer took on three different identities, making it challenging at times to remember who he was. Due to his amazing power of concentration he almost never made a mistake.

In writing this book Dr. Schnitzer hopes to convey the message, "in times of catastrophe, don't give up hope, keep fighting until the end."

Dr. Morris Schnitzer will be at the Soloway Jewish Community Centre on Monday, December 9 at 7:30 pm to discuss his inspiring story. For further information contact Maxine Miska (798-9818, ext. 263).

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VAAD Report

L. Gerald
Levitz
President

In about six months, I will complete my two-year term as president of the Vaad Ha'Ir. While I had a good understanding of the challenges faced by the Ottawa Jewish community, I was somewhat surprised at the breadth of responsibilities associated with the position and the volume of issues that a president, and executive director of the Vaad need to address. Despite the significance of the challenge, it continues to be a pleasure to be Jewish, and a privilege to serve.

For some time now, I have wanted to share the breadth and depth of issues faced by the leadership of the community in my *Bulletin* column. Mitchell Bellman and I currently have a list of 45 matters in varying stages of completion. The matters range from preparing for and participating in many meetings, to the status and care of our physical assets, to the financial and

program needs of community agencies, to our professional staff requirements now and in the future, to the status and progress of our annual UIA Campaign, to the direction and efforts of the numerous committees of the Vaad, to our relations and commitment to UIA Federations Canada, and the Canadian Jewish Congress, and to our support of Israel now and forever. I hope I can inspire members of the community to get involved to help us meet our collective challenges.

For the next six months some of the specific major initiatives are as follows:

One of the most important projects is the Strategic Planning Task Force. Through that process we are trying to develop a blueprint for the future of the Ottawa Jewish community. Just as we presented a plan for our campus development, we hope to present a plan on what it takes to strengthen and build our Jewish community so we can ensure that our community continues to grow and remains strong and vibrant. The task force will work on setting priorities and developing ways and means for our community to meet its strategic objectives.

A blueprint for the future

The Vaad is also involved in fostering better relations with all of our beneficiary agencies. We have been engaging in formal discussions with the major agencies on issues facing our community and how we can work better together. We are in the process of developing an agreement to clarify our mutual expectations on how we work together on behalf of the whole Jewish community.

As part of our commitment to improved communications, we have initiated a quarterly newsletter to the top donors to the UJA. We want the people who provide most of the funding to be better aware of what we do in the community and how we plan to meet our emerging challenges.

Every ten years, the Canadian Jewish community conducts a population study based on the results of the national census. The results from the 2001 census are going to be released shortly and the Vaad is working with a UIAACF demographer to study and report on the development of our community. The census study gives us an opportunity to better understand the Jewish community, where we live, how much we

earn, our education levels, our professions and much more detailed information. The report will help us plan for the future. We are including all agencies and synagogues in this study and will continue to do so.

Our connection to Israel remains an important aspect of our work. We are raising additional funds for Israel as part of the second line appeal in the UJA campaign. We are enhancing our involvement in the Partnership 2000 program where we are creating people to people partnerships with the Israelis who live in the Upper Galilee region. We are continuing to advocate on behalf of Israel as we did with our emotional rally on Parliament Hill last spring. Finally, we are planning some community missions to Israel so that we can make a joint and personal statement about our support for Israel as one community.

While I have not provided a complete listing of all that is on our plate, I will be pleased if we can meet these challenges in the next six months.

On behalf of the Officers of the Vaad, I wish the entire community a Happy Chanukah.

How I see it

Bob Dale

Don't tell Elisabeth Arnold about the housing boom in Ottawa.

If you do, Arnold, Councillor for Somerset Ward, will bend your ear about the people in some 13,500 households who are on the City of Ottawa's waiting list for social housing. She'll also tell you about the scores of other people who desperately need housing but aren't willing to wait the five to eight years it takes to secure accommodation. She'll tell you about the 1,000 people who, on any given night, sleep in emergency shelters, and about the people who are put up in motels because there is nowhere else for them to go. Not a good place for a child to grow up, is it?

If you press Arnold, she'll also tell you that while some of the people who need housing have emotional or drug problems, a growing number, many of whom live in Ottawa's west end, were once employed in high tech. Some are still without jobs, and many are now included in Ottawa's "working poor," people who work in temporary, part-time or casual jobs that don't provide them with enough money to afford decent housing and pay for groceries for themselves and their kids. It's hard to afford things when your rental payments account for 50 per cent (and often more) of your take-home pay.

The housing problem has hit our own Jewish community. Andrea Gardner, coor-

Social housing needs keep growing

dinator of Jewish Family Service's poverty relief program, says that 19 of her current clients are in subsidized housing. Another two to four, each and every month, would be homeless if JFS didn't step in on an emergency basis to help them meet their rent payments and avoid eviction. The poverty relief program now provides approximately \$1,000 per month in emergency rental assistance to Jewish clients, states Gardner, noting how about 75 per cent (and in some case, up to 90 per cent) of her clients' incomes are dedicated to meeting their housing costs. With skyrocketing hydro bills, she adds, the problem will likely worsen.

Who says poverty and desperation don't affect Jews in Ottawa?

A big reason for Ottawa's housing problem, says Elisabeth Arnold, is that in 1995, the provincial government stopped funding social housing. Around the same time, the federal government stopped its own capital development program. Now, the federal government is proposing funding of \$25,000 for each new social housing unit. The catch is that provincial governments must get involved as equal partners, contributing \$25,000 as well.

Ontario's provincial government has declined, except for offering a \$2,000 Provincial Sales Tax rebate. If Ottawa and other municipalities want to qualify for the federal program, they will have to put up the other \$23,000 per unit that the province refuses to pay. Is it realistic to expect the provincial government to contribute? Yes, emphatically states Arnold, pointing out that Nova Scotia and Manitoba have done this. It baffles her why

Ontario refuses to take responsibility for social housing. It would certainly help if more people started to lobby the provincial government, and ask it why it won't help fund social housing, she says.

Social housing in Ottawa is now totally funded by city money. Arnold's fear, given the range of city priorities, is that the city will stop paying for social housing too, unless citizens like us keep an eye on things.

Arnold knows that many people don't want social housing in their neighbourhood. They oppose its high density and its resultant impact on existing house prices; and they fear the types of people who might move in. Arnold responds to the first question by pointing out that the policy of locating social housing throughout the city, instead of in one place,

resulted from peoples' opposition to having entire neighbourhoods dedicated to social housing. Besides, says Arnold, studies have shown that today's type of social housing has little, if any, effect on existing housing prices. Secondly, the people who move in are from all parts of society, and are not the stereotypical drug user or hardened criminal. Even if they were, at least they would be supervised in social housing, instead of living on their own and being more susceptible to negative influences.

If we don't give people a decent place to live, says Elisabeth Arnold, where do we expect them to go? That's a really tough question to answer. But with the growing numbers of people without decent housing, it's a question we're probably going to have to think about a lot more.

Ottawa Jewish bulletin



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Editor

Barry Fishman

If he is to accomplish even half of what he has set out to do, Ronen Gil-Or, the new deputy head of mission at the Israeli embassy, will soon be known as one of the busiest and hardest-working diplomats in Ottawa. Like his boss, Ambassador Haim Divon, Gil-Or sets his sights high. And with the help of Canadian Jews, the new number two man at the Israeli embassy has no doubt in his mind that he will succeed.

The amount of trade between Canada and Israel is a mere billion dollars Canadian a

year. Gil-Or says a major goal is "to try to at least double the amount of trade between Canada and Israel" by concentrating, more on the traditional industries to boost trade now that high tech is in the doldrums. He is urging Canadian Jewish business people to visit and invest in Israel. We should, he says, do more than "just concentrate on the old ways of helping Israel [donations]. Let's help Israel do business in Canada." Gil-Or believes the trade mission that accompanied President Moshe Katsav's state visit to Canada was a good start to improving trade and investment. Since arriving, Gil-Or has had meetings with Henri Rothschild of the Canadian Israel Industrial Research Development Foundation (CIIRD) and spoken with Yehuda Raven of the Israel Canada

Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CICCI) in Jerusalem. With the help of these organizations, the Israeli commercial attaché in Toronto and others, Gil-Or is hopeful that, using the free trade agreement between the two countries, Israeli and Canadian businesses can substantially increase trade.

The image that Canadians see nightly on their newscasts of Israel is that of a country at war. Gil-Or feels that Canadians must be reminded, "that there is another Israel." He is actively promoting Israeli culture with the help of community organizations such as SJCC, Vaad, Canada Israel Cultural Foundation, Canadian Jewish Congress, Canada Israel Committee and the Veed Israel Cultural Centre. The idea behind the *Israeli Cultural Forum* is to bring artists, educators and scientists to the attention of the Canadian public by having them visit here. Gil-Or is hoping these visits will give Canadians a truer picture of what Israel is like and what it has accomplished.

Even though he is aware that many people in the Jewish community "feel that Canada can do better," and should take positions more similar to the US vis à vis the Middle East, Gil-Or insists that "Canada is a very good friend of Israel." What he expects to do on the diplomatic front is to continue improving on the good relationship between the two countries. He would like to convince the Canadian government that its position on Hezbollah is not only wrong, but is not logical. "You cannot differentiate between the humanitarian and military wings of the Hezbollah organization," he says.

Canada, he feels, has a role to play in diffusing the tension in the region. Prior to the Francophonie meeting in Beirut, the Israelis met with the Prime Minister's and foreign affairs advisers to press the government to use its influence in helping to improve the relationship with Lebanon. Unfortunately, the government spent very little time discussing the border problems. He believes Canada has influence with the Arab states and "we need to convince them [Canada] more and more to do their part."

Gil-Or, a lawyer, joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1994. His first overseas posting was as second secretary, Israeli Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela. He dealt with economic and international cooperation matters. He and his wife Sharon and sons Amir (10), Assaf (7) and Eyal (5), who was born in Caracas, enjoyed their time there and especially the warm and caring Jewish community of 30,000. Prior to his appointment to Canada, he was the first secretary and lawyer in the Department of Diplomatic and Civil Law Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His duties included looking after the legal affairs of the many Israeli embassies around the world.

In the short time he has been here, Gil-Or is very impressed with how involved and supportive individuals and organizations in the community are in their support of Israel. He hopes to build on this, so "we can continue to achieve much through this collaboration."

Gil-Or feels that the generations that fought in the 1967, 1973 and 1982 wars believed that there was an opportunity in 1993 to work towards peace with the Palestinians. Unfortunately, since the intifada, they "have lost their confidence" in the peace process.

Although things may look bleak, Gil-Or tries to remain confident that a solution will be found once the violence stops. "Israelis are people who seek peace and, one way or another, we will get back to the negotiation table."

Let us hope, as we shortly begin to celebrate Chanukah, he is right and it happens sooner rather than later.

If you have a personal recollection of someone who has recently passed away who has made a difference in the lives of community members, we would like to hear from you. Our column *They Made a Difference* (page 14) celebrates individuals who have positively affected others and is written by either a family member or friend. For further information, contact me (798-4696, ext. 264 or e-mail bfishman@jccottawa.com).

MAILBAG

Setting the record straight

Thank-you for the nice write-up in the November 11 issue of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* about me being honoured at the Raoul Wallenberg dinner on Oct. 27.

I wish to set the record straight by stating that I was never head of the Jewish War Veterans in Ottawa. My position was and is adjutant (secretary) and I served under all the Post commanders up to the present.

I apologize if I was in any way responsible for this error during the interview with your representative.

Sam Agres

Support for Israel essential for peace process

Some day the dollars we send to Israel will be used to help relocate settlers on the West Bank to Israel proper. Hence the assistance the Ottawa Jewish community provides to the Jewish State is essential to the continuing peace process. Whether you believe that the establishment of Jewish

settlements was the single most calamitous and short-sighted decision the modern Jewish state has ever made, or that settlements were inevitable while the occupation waited for peace to happen, the fact remains that if peace is to take root, the settlers will have to be re-settled. It's doubtful they will want to remain if they find themselves under Palestinian sovereignty.

There are of course delusionists of the "zealot" variety who insist they will never have to leave; or, that they will simply never leave.

For a true peace to come to fruition one thing is for sure: there can be no feeble understanding by Israelites and the Jewish world about Palestinians needing their own state within the boundaries set out by the United Nations. And of course, the corollary is that there can no longer be, in any way shape or form, half-hearted appreciation among Palestinian politicians and their security forces when it comes to fighting terrorists and extremists (some shrinkage in Western European guiltiness would also help).

Unfortunately, much time may have to pass for things to set right.

Phil Mader

This Chanukah dream the impossible dream

human quest to arose the spirit of nobility, the power of faith and a life predicated on values during times when they appear dormant. The signature song of the musical is entitled: *To Dream the Impossible Dream*. As the protagonist sang this song I was overwhelmed by its message: no matter what the obstacles the dream is still important; never let it die and always march onward.

It is easy to fantasize Judah the Macabbee and his outnumbered, under-supplied believers marching towards Jerusalem and the melody of "Impossible Dream" providing the background music. Against all odds our ancestors vanquished the Greek-Syrian oppressors. We celebrate their tilting at windmills each and every Chanukah. Of course scholars have

often suggested that the tale taught to generations of Jewish children may not accurately reflect the events of 2500 years ago. Yet even if scholars are correct about the particulars, there is one indisputable truth, we Jews are still here. Chanukah is our yearly reminder that against all odds, against multiple foes our ancestors refused to give up the dream of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. A dream, which promised a people eternally living in covenant with God and blessed by commandments of justice and righteousness.

Yet what really touched my soul that night in Washington DC was the reminder that without a dream we humans are only flesh and blood and lots of water. Dreams are what drive us to

seek the perfection of our lives, the perfection of our significant relationships, the perfection of our communities. Chanukah is an opportunity for a yearly checkup on what dreams motivate our quest for the 'impossible.' We can dream of an Israel that lives in peace with its neighbours, but do we pursue it? We can dream of housing and food for the homeless and hungry, but do we act to alleviate the distress? We can dream of personal fulfillment, but do we engage in learning or change our behaviours to ensure that like Jacob, there is a ladder to climb?

This year as you light the Chanukiyah let the candles illuminate your impossible dream, or if necessary, let the lights rekindle your impossible dream.



From the pulpit

Rabbi Steven H. Garten
Temple Israel

What touches our soul? Is it the touch of a loved one, the majesty of nature, the power of a well-written phrase, the sounds of a symphony. My soul was touched, no, more than touched, it was grabbed during a recent sojourn in Washington DC.

I attended a pre-Broadway production of the 1965-66 musical *Man of La Mancha*. The play is a loose adaptation of Cervante's classic novel *Don Quixote*. Both the novel and play address the

Na'amat's Canada convention inspires local members

By Dana Albert-Novick

Thanksgiving weekend is usually just another long weekend for families to spend together. This was not so this year for six Ottawa Na'amat members. The six from Ottawa joined more than 150 women from across Canada, in Toronto, for the 13th Triennial Na'amat Canada Convention – *Pathways to the Future*.

"The convention really strengthened my dedication to the Na'amat cause," said

Sarah Beutel, Ottawa council president and one of the local participants. "It was moving to meet such a diverse group of women from across the country and know Na'amat is what brings them all together."

Forty-eight hours were spent learning and laughing, as well as making important decisions for the organization. Guest speakers included Heather Reisman, CEO of Chapters-Indigo Books; Bernie Farber, executive

director, Canadian Jewish Congress in Ontario; Dr. Carolyn Bennett, MP for St. Paul's (Toronto); and the honoured guest, Talia Livni, the new president of Na'amat Israel, the largest women's movement in Israel.

The discussions were lively, stimulating and inspiring. Topics included the situation in the Middle East, the needs and problems facing Israel's women and children today and what we, Canadian women of the Na'amat movement, can do



Ottawa delegates: Lillian Laks, Marian Lederman, Sarah Beutel, Ilana Albert-Novick, Karen Beutel and Judy Field.

to help both as fundraisers and as active members of our communities.

For more information on the work Na'amat does in Israel and in Ottawa, please call the office (722-2932) or check out our website at www.naamat.com.

Make your mother happy:

Attend the JETsetters Chanukah Bash

By Zev Singer

If you're a young Jewish single person in Ottawa, you're coming to the JET Hanukkah party on December 7.

Seriously. I spoke to your Mother.

She says it's time you got out and did something Jewish in Ottawa.

JET, which stands for

Jewish Education through Torah, is that nice group of people who feed you Shabbat dinners and offer you dozens of different classes in Jewish learning. This time they want to make you eat latkes. And maybe, just maybe, you'll meet someone. Would it be so awful your poor mother should become a bubble already?

Young married people are allowed to come too, and will - don't get me wrong. This isn't a "Singles" event, per se. I'm just saying that after all your mother's done for you ...

Besides the food, there will be music, and a bit of comedy. Mostly, though, it's about getting to meet all the Ottawa Jews you've never seen before, and that you didn't know existed. I don't know, maybe it's just something about the eight candles that draws them - like big, jewelry-wearing moths - but

afford, don't worry about it. They won't turn you away, especially if you're a good eater. Come here; let me pinch your cheeks.

The party is at the Victoria Park Suites on 377 O'Connor Street. A ticket will cost you a mere \$10.00, unless you're a student, in which case it's just \$5.00 in advance and \$12.00 and \$7.00 at the door. In the event that that's still hard to

There, doesn't that feel better?

P.S. You're mother also says call her.

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Chanukah lighting ceremony on Parliament Hill Dec. 2

By Lauren Krugel

On the fourth day of Chanukah, Parliament Hill will be drenched in the

warm light of the menorah – a universal symbol for religious freedom and tolerance according to Rabbi Mendy Zirkind.

Zirkind, of the Canadian Friends of Chabad Lubavitch has organized the beautiful ceremony, which will be a celebration of peace, generosity and respect – values that are not exclusive to the Jewish community, but to everyone.

Elinor Caplan, Member of Parliament and Minister of National Revenue will host the 13th annual menorah-lighting ceremony. As always, a number of mem-

bers of Parliament will travel from their ridings across Canada in order to watch as the candles flicker and glow.

"The Jewish community has good friends in government," says Jamie Springer, a spokesperson from Minister Caplan's office. Springer adds that representatives from every party will say a few words in the spirit of the season.

While there are many Jewish Members of Parliament who will be in atten-

dance, Springer says that the ceremony holds no cultural boundaries.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to share traditions with non-Jewish parliamentarians," he says. "It reinforces the traditions and values of the Jewish community."

The menorah-lighting ceremony isn't just about politics, though. Children are also invited to share in the festivities.

After the ceremony, tradi-

tional Chanukah treats including delectable latkes will be served in the elegant Reading Room in Centre Block (237-C) – one of the most beautiful sites on the Hill.

The ceremony will take place at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2. Rabbi Zirkind is excited that this year, for the first time, the children of the Shmuel Chavy Cheder Chabad will be present at this very special and symbolic ceremony.

Aviv festival planning well under way

By Bob Dale

Where will you be on Sunday, May 25, 2003?

You probably haven't given much thought to that question. May 25, 2003 is still far away. If you're Ellen or Ray Fathi, co-chairs of Aviv, the Jewish Festival of Spring, you're spending lots of time thinking about May 25, and about how you're going to do everything you have to do in so short a time.

"Ray and I want to change the focus of the Aviv festival," says Ellen. "That's going to take a huge amount of work."

That doesn't scare the Fathis, who have organized countless events in the Jewish and broader communities, including the Walkathon.

The Walkathon has long been our community's main spring 'happening,' bringing people of all ages together for fund-raising and fun. While the Walkathon,



of Shabbat on May 24 and run to the end of the day on May 25, and will offer a wide variety of food, entertainment, and Jewish and Israeli goods.

"What we're looking for now," says Ray, "are volunteers to help us plan and organize Aviv, not only its major events, but also the many smaller tasks."

If you can volunteer, please contact them (828-2838).

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Website exposes Holocaust deniers and racists to public scrutiny

By David Aaron

Ken McVay's life has been threatened so many times that he has lost count. Attempts to intimidate his family have become so commonplace over the last ten years that he no longer takes them seriously.

The sixty-two year old McVay has dedicated the last decade of his life to combating the spurious claims of Holocaust deniers both on the Internet and in other forums.

His efforts are embodied by the Nizkor Project (www.nizkor.org), the foremost resource for the study and refutation of Holocaust

denial on the Internet.

Following on the heels of its highly successful screening and discussion of the documentary film *Hana's Suitcase*, the Holocaust Education Committee presented a talk by Ken McVay entitled "Holocaust Deniers and Racism on the Internet," the second in a series of events that comprise Ottawa's Holocaust Education Week.

Rabbi Reuven Bulka introduced the evening's speaker, and reminded those gathered in the main sanctuary of Machzikei Hadas that remembering the Holocaust and its lessons remains an

essential and relevant priority in today's age. While hate continues to remain prevalent throughout the world, Rabbi Bulka reminded us that, "the truth remains the truth."

The need for continued vigilance was a theme that was echoed throughout Mr. McVay's presentation. While the lies peddled by the "same old Nazis," as Mr. McVay refers to them, have remained relatively unchanged over the years, he warned that this is no excuse for complacency in the fight to combat their efforts.

McVay first encountered Holocaust deniers online in January 1992, and immediately dedicated himself to the task of learning all that he could about the Holocaust, so as to be able to refute the vile claims he was encountering.

He is constantly asked why a non-Jewish person like himself would dedicate his life to the fight against Holocaust deniers, anti-Semitism and hatred on the Internet.



Ken McVay's website (www.nizkor.org) is considered the foremost resource for the study and refutation of Holocaust denial.

(Photo: David Aaron)

His reply: "They offended my humanity. It's that simple."

Speaking to Mr. McVay for only a few moments, one is left with no doubt as to the passion and sincerity underpinning those words. The end result is an accumulation of over one million pages of information on the Holocaust, its deniers and revisionists, white supremacists and other racists who disseminate false and hateful material on the Internet.

McVay's goal was to introduce the audience to the types of individuals that lurk in the dark corners of cyberspace, preying on the young and susceptible minds alike. McVay is convinced that exposing these offensive individuals to public scrutiny

ny, thereby removing the anonymity that the Internet affords them, is the first step in the battle to eliminate their reprehensible activities completely. By forcing them to account for their opinions in an open forum, many of their activities may be curtailed.

While Holocaust deniers may claim that they do not hate Jews, or that scientific evidence provides proof that the Holocaust did not occur in the manner that is commonly recounted, it remains the job of all those combating these individuals to demonstrate the spuriousness of their claims.

Although this task remains the responsibility of everyone whose humanity is offended as Ken McVay's was, we are lucky that he has set an example for others to follow.

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Busy time for Hillel Auxiliary

By Dora Litwack

The Hillel Auxiliary recently held two events at the Bess and Mo Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge. On October 2, I was honoured to act as Installation Officer for our new slate of executive and committee members.

For the theme of the installation, I chose a Hillel Lodge resident and painted a portrait of a generic woman. Each member of the executive and committee represented a different part of the anatomy and were asked to come forward and attach their piece on the portrait to complete the picture. For example our President Elissa Iny was compared to the heart as it signified the beat and pulse of our Auxiliary.

The new slate of executive and committee members are looking forward to another two years of successful endeavours that will benefit the residents.

Our major fundraiser of the year, the Auxiliary annual tea was well attended and very successful. Mrs. Linda



Devon, wife of the Israeli Ambassador to Canada and many volunteers of the Hillel Lodge were honoured to pour tea. President Elissa Iny thanked everyone for coming and Tea Chairperson Naomi Lipsky Cracower thanked all those that helped make the tea so successful.

During the tea many vis-

ited the Auxiliary gift shop located in the lobby of the Hillel Lodge to purchase Chanukah and other presents from the well-stocked store.

It was a fraileach event and all the proceeds of the tea will go to help make the lives of our dear residents more comfortable and enjoyable.



(Photo left) Naomi Lipsky Cracower, vice-president of the Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge and tea convener, embraces Thelma Steinman, longstanding Auxiliary member and corresponding secretary.

(Photo above) Members of the Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge enjoy a fraileach tea, the proceeds of which will go to help make life more comfortable for residents of the Lodge.

(Photos: Peter Waisen)

In Appreciation

We wish to express our warmest appreciation to all our friends and members of the Ottawa Jewish community for their generous donations, cards and expressions of happiness in honour of the recent marriage of our daughter Ilana to Gary Indech. Please accept this as a personal thank you.

Rabbi Arnold and Chevy Fine

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They Made a Difference

Gaby Sassoon – Shalom, Chaver

1946 - 2002

By Suzanne Sassoon



Several months ago, I was asked to prepare an article about my husband, Gaby Sassoon. I took a long time to think about this and decide how best to describe this remarkable man. How could one convey his essence? How to capture his dynamism, his love of people (extending far beyond just family and friends), his faith, his talents, his gifts, his love of travel, and his special love for Israel? And, most important to me, how to describe all this without appearing to be biased, as his loving partner for eight years?

After Gaby passed away, I received literally hundreds of cards from friends all over Canada and the US. Many of these cards had a letter or note attached expressing thoughts and memories of Gaby. Many senders wanted to introduce themselves to me for the first time, and explain how Gaby had fit into the pattern of their lives, and how he had added to their lives.

One letter in particular stood out. It was written by Joanne Kalman, a fellow Israeli dancer and close friend. It was this letter, which so accurately and lovingly captured the beauty of Gaby Sassoon. Joanne has graciously permitted the *OJB* to print it:

"I don't remember when or where I first met Gaby – it was probably at Israeli dancing. I do know that it was an important moment in my life for the lessons that Gaby was to teach me, simply by the example he set. He was an amazing person, but if I had to sum him up in one word, I'd say he was FUN. His zest for life and sense of humour, his warmth and caring for everyone he met, his outgoing personality, all combined to make him a "fun" person to be around. His knowledge of languages was impressive – English, French, Hebrew, Turkish, Arabic, Spanish – did I leave any out – I heard him use them all in one conversation the last time I saw him!"

His volunteerism was an inspiration to us all – both Jewish and non-Jewish organizations. I remember seeing him on TV one night singing in a boat "fishing" in an ad for Big Brothers, as they do not show the children. The fish he so proudly was displaying, he later informed me, was from Loblaw's!

Gaby loved to tease and play practical jokes. He would phone, disguise his voice, and have me going for quite a while until I'd finally clue in – "Gaby, is that you?" One of his best was dressing up at a costume party, complete with head covering and mask. He showed up, wandered around, said not a word (the toughest part I'm sure); then left. When he returned in street clothes, he never would admit to it being him. Gaby teased so much we didn't believe him when he said that the tulip originated in Turkey!

Over the years we learned a lot of dances together – he was a very nice dancer. He loved it and it showed. The music would inspire him to sing as well as dance, and Gaby didn't hesitate to indicate his favourites either. We even have a dance – Hazmana Lemachol – I still think of as "follow me, follow me." This is what Gaby would shout when the music would come on and we were trying to remember this wonderful new dance.

I never saw Gaby when he didn't ask about those close to me – always calling my children by name. This was typical, kind, caring Gaby and it was so genuine. And this was what endeared him to so many people in this city. Gaby was everywhere, the most involved, energetic person I've ever met and the most generous. He loved people and we all loved him back.

Onawa has suffered a tremendous loss and there will be a void in our community. If we can all learn a little from Gaby's lessons of caring, perhaps we can begin to help fill that void."

A few of the many organizations Gaby was involved with included: Tamir Foundation, UJA – Head of Civil Service Division, United Way Volunteer, UJA Golf Tournament Organizer, Onawa Jewish Youth Library Board Member, Vaad Executive Board Member, Sephardic Association Past VP, REACH Executive, Big Brothers' Association of Ottawa Executive, Ottawa Israeli Folk Dancing Member, Shirah Choir Member and Past Chairman of Shalom Welcome Service.

A warm "thank you" to Kinneret Globerman of the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* for her generous assistance and advice.

A parent's perspective:

Tamir's timeshare provides respite for caregivers

By Debbie Ferkin

Some time ago, we introduced ourselves to you through the *Bulletin*. At that time we were just learning about Tamir Foundation and "testing the waters" through the Family Support Group. At the time, we were even flirting with a very long-range vision of seeing our daughter Vicki in residential service. Since then we have watched her grow, mature and learn new skills. We have all come a long way and well, here we are some six years later, and we have just completed our first month at Timeshare.

While Timeshare is not in a warm climate under some palm trees, it is a wonderful experience nonetheless.

Our daughter Vicki spent the month of October living in "her apartment," as she comfortably puts it; sharing space with an apartment mate. Vicki is an only child and has not really had to share space, things etc. (other than a cabin at summer camp) with anyone except mom and dad. So this, in itself, was a new experience and one that turned out to be a positive one. Prior to becoming Timeshare parents we weren't quite sure, but were hopeful, of what this could mean to us. Now we can say with confidence that being a Timeshare resident is a great stepping-stone for our



Tamir residents (from left to right): Jay Greenblatt, Vicki Ferkin and Jason Kerahan.

daughter to learn how to live independently away from home.

As parents experiencing this for the first time, the staff worked with us on an ongoing basis (before, during and following the stay) to make certain the transition from home to 'home away from home' was as easy and comfortable as possible for everyone. This meant offer-

ing a little TLC where needed or by making sure regular routines were kept. No matter what, they were always there for us.

We are very happy to be a part of the Tamir family and look forward to building on this positive beginning. Becoming empty nesters is something as parents we can now entertain.

Tamir's Timeshare pro-

gram serves as a respite opportunity for individuals over sixteen that have a developmental disability. Timeshare provides individuals with the opportunity for a taste of semi-independent living and allows some much-needed respite for family caregivers. For further information please contact Timeshare Supervisor Gayle Legge (798-7268).

Light, love and L'Chaims for Gaby

Gaby Sassoon, of blessed memory, was well known in the Jewish community of Ottawa. He was very active in many organizations and beloved by all who knew him.

One of the smaller Jewish organizations that he was very involved with and served on its board of direc-

tors was the Jewish Youth Library of Ottawa. He was a very active member who was always seeking new ways to help the library grow and expand.

In tribute to Gaby and to the legacy he created, the library will be dedicating a tree of life and holding a Gala Dinner entitled, Light,

Love and L'Chaims. The dinner will take place in March and the exact date will be announced in the next *Bulletin*.

For more information, or to be part of the dinner committee please call Devora Caytak (729-7712). Everyone is welcome to participate.

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BEI OUR TOWN

Jess Abelson inducted into Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame

One of the Ottawa Jewish community's best athletes was recently inducted into the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame.

Jess Abelson (1892-1975) had a major impact on the local sporting scene. He was a star flying wing with the Ottawa football club that won two championships, captain of the 1913 Britannia Canadian war canoe winning team, and a star in basketball, rugby and track.

Abelson owned and managed the Eastern Ontario champion Strathcona semi-pro softball team, served in many roles for the YMCA for 60 years, sponsored Ottawa Primrose hockey, founded the Tel Aviv tennis club and the 39th boy scout troop – one of the first Jewish scout troops in Canada.

Abelson considered by many to be the 'founding father' of Jewish sport in Ottawa was the first name to be placed in the Ottawa Jewish Sports Hall of Fame. An OJB article on Dec. 12, 1986 summarized his induction as follows:

"As an athlete, Jess's accomplishments rank among the best in Ottawa during the 1900s, whether Jewish or non-Jewish. As a



Jess Abelson

community-conscious activist, his work brought the Jewish community together and enhanced the social, intellectual and athletic life of Ottawa Jewish youth."

Local authors attend Toronto Jewish Book Fair

The Ottawa Jewish community was well represented at the recent Toronto Jewish Book Fair. Author Sharon Abron Drache read an excerpt from her novel *A Guest in My House*, Seymour Mayne spoke on Future Directions for Canadian Jewish Writing, and children's author Jacques Shore launched his new

book *Menorah in the Sky*. Unfortunately Dr. Morris Schnitzer who was scheduled to read from his recently published *My Three Selves: A Memoir* was unable to attend due to illness. However, Ottawa audiences will have the opportunity to meet Dr. Schnitzer when he gives an author's talk on Dec. 9 at the Soloway JCC.

Local resident takes trophy in The Great Canadian Bathtub Race

Rena Fitch competed in the 36th annual Great Canadian Bathtub Race in Nanaimo, British Columbia. Not only did she finish the race, Rena received a trophy for having come the furthest to participate. Her time in the race was 2 hours, 51 minutes, 38 seconds.

Nanaimo, on Vancouver Island across the sheltered Strait of Georgia from Vancouver, is the scene of Canada's annual bathtub race.

This exciting spectacle pits very competitive 'tubbers' from around the world against one another in seriously modified bathtubs. In a churning, frothing, bouncing, tub swamping frenzy, they race out into the Strait of Georgia and most make it back, about 35 km. At the first race in 1967, close to

200 tubbers entered the fun competition and only 47 completed the course. This year, 39 eager tubers started out, with 18 crossing the finish line. The winning time was 1 hours, 44 minutes, 48 seconds.

Rena has lived in Ottawa since 1994. She graduated from Brookfield High School in 1999, and University of Ottawa (BA Psychology) in June 2002. She currently works in childcare.



Rena Fitch races towards the finish line during the annual Great Canadian Bathtub Race in Nanaimo, BC.

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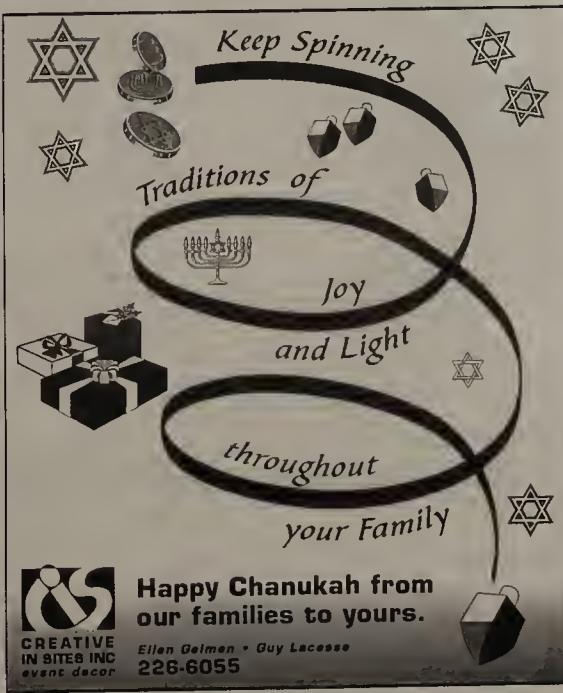
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Jewish Family Services asks synagogues for more help

By Ruth Kahane Goldberg

Ottawa synagogues can do more to help improve the quality of life of low income Jews, says Lisa Bogdanov, Jewish Family Services (JFS) director of development and administrative services. There is greater awareness that poverty exists in the Jewish community and "we'd like to see synagogues become more involved in social

action projects," she says.

Though current statistics are not available, Bogdanov says poverty has certainly become more prevalent as a result of government cutbacks and the increased cost of housing. When last calculated in 1991, there were 1,690 Jewish people in Ottawa living below the low income cutoff (\$40,389 before taxes for a Jewish family of four, taking into

account an additional 20 per cent for the costs of Jewish living.). The percentage of Jewish poor, 13 per cent was equal to the general population.

JFS sees the synagogues as partners, Bogdanov says. The Kosher Food Bank, for example, run by Agudath Israel, works with JFS clients. The synagogue organizes, fundraises and provides the labour-intensive manpower and cooperates with other synagogues. Temple Israel co-manages distribution; Adath Shalom provides volunteer and funding support; and other synagogues contribute.

Another valuable role is played by helping to link volunteers to JFS projects. Rabbis' confidential refer-

CANADIAN LOW-INCOME CUT-OFF RATES, (LICOS) 1998

Family Size	Community of 500,000 people or more	Additional 20% for Jewish Living
1	\$17,886	\$21,463
2	\$22,357	\$26,828
3	\$27,805	\$33,366
4	\$33,658	\$40,389
5	\$37,624	\$45,148
6	\$41,590	\$49,908
7+	\$45,556	\$54,667

Published by Statistics Canada using the 1992 base.

Refers to pre-tax, post-transfer household income.

rals help people access the Tikvah Project, the EZRA poverty relief program, discount cards, and counselling in cases of spousal abuse and family violence. Synagogues can also help JFS clients by sponsoring

individuals to attend its Passover Seder, Bogdanov says.

JFS is seeking synagogue support for its Street Smart project. It wants to fund a position for the person who runs the project

and train more volunteers to help on the street. The project helps the homeless by networking, giving out grocery certificates and linking street people to other agencies that don't have a street presence.

Social Action initiatives at local synagogues

By Ruth Kahane Goldberg

Ottawa synagogues are taking a variety of approaches to helping those in need.

Temple Israel is currently holding meetings to plan its major social justice initiatives. According to Rabbi Garten, the congregation expects to be involved in the Street Smart project as well as the Out of the Cold Project, Centre 454 and several other new endeavours.

Agudath Israel's 4th annual Mitzvah Day is currently in the planning stages and will be held late March or early April on a topic to be announced, says Social Action Chair Yaffa Greenbaum. Last year the project included a mitzvah marketplace where Jewish community members learned about

volunteering for 40 social action projects in and beyond the Jewish community.

Ottawa Torah Centre is working on behalf of low income families by ensuring they have free membership in their congregation, charging a minimal fee for High Holidays and placing a notice at JFS that they are offering a place to come, says Rabbi Menachem Blum.

Beth Shalom West has a chesed fund and a committee to help members in need, as well as a tzedakah fund which rabbis traditionally use discreetly to help people in and outside the community. The synagogue has a food bank box, says President Esther Kulik.

Historically, Machzikei

Hadas sponsored a Bosnian family, a Russian family and is now planning to sponsor a family in Israel, says President David Freeman. The synagogue works on behalf of the Kosher Food Bank and welcomes immigrant families without charging dues. It has received many Argentinean families sent by JFS.

In addition to hands-on and financial involvement with the Kosher Food Bank, Adath Shalom maintains its connection with 515 MacLaren, a residence for formerly homeless women, Beth Shalom, as Ottawa's only downtown synagogue, sees the issue of homelessness as very important, says President Tom Gussman. Rabbi Braun visits Jewish people in shelters and its services are open to all. "Social action is a critical component of the synagogue community, and of the Jewish community," he says.

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VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 25, 2002



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Mitzvah Knitter Mary Goldberg shows off the afghan she made at the SJCC

SJCC Early Childhood Education Survey Planning for the children of tomorrow

If you have children under the age of 5 or are a family expecting children you may have received the Soloway Jewish Community Centre Early Childhood Education Survey.

Your responses are important to help us plan appropriate educational programs and facilities for the children of our community over the next 5-10 years. Please be assured that all of the information received will be treated with strict confi-

dence and used for statistical purposes only. No information will be connected to the identity of any specific respondent or used for any purpose other than to compile data for this survey.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts with us. If you have not received the Early Childhood Education Survey and would like to participate please call Canon Manager Jennifer DeVries at 798-9818, ext 280.



Children learn all about Shabbat at Shabbat Shalom with Jenny Shinder

Ottawa's first Hebrew Language Library opens its doors at the Soloway JCC

The Vered Israel Cultural and Educational Centre together with the Israeli Embassy opened the doors to the Hebrew Language Library November 21, 2002.

"There are approximately 500 Hebrew speaking families in Ottawa, and the numbers are growing every day," says Avivit Erlichman, Vered Israel Cultural

Program Manager. "We need this, there is no other source for Hebrew literature in the community, there are no stores to buy books, CDs or video cassettes."

The Library will include books for all age groups on a variety of topics and VHS movies. SJCC members can use the library free of charge. Non-

members will require a Hebrew Language Library Membership \$25 for an individual, \$36 for a family and \$15 for students and seniors. The library is housed in the Vered Israel Cultural Center in the Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building. For more information on the library or to reserve books and movies call Avivit at 798-9818, ext 276.

Lights camera, action, comedy and drama Jewish-themed films every month

The Ottawa Jewish Film Society unspools 10 fascinating films one Sunday a month every month until May all free of charge to SJCC and Greenberg Family Library Members.

On December 8 there will be a double feature with Everlasting Joy; or, The Life and Adventures of Baruch Spinoza as Reported by his Vigilant Neighbors, (1996) an award winning Israeli comedy, with English subtitles, about six hard working neighbours, the joys of love, sufferings of war and a broken washing machine. This film starts at 2:00 and is followed by Pillar of Salt, about the cultural richness and social complexity of a Jewish boy's life in Tunisia.

Great Cantors in Cinema hits the screen January 19 and features some rare performances from renowned cantors during the 1930s and 40s, the "Golden Age of Chazzanut". The film is Hebrew, English and Yiddish with English subtitles.

Following the Great Cantors, and in keeping with the musical theme, is Israel Rocks, an English subtitled 1991 Gold Medal winning TV documentary featuring singers bands and choirs all performing various styles.

A Jewish immigrant travels to New York's lower east side in 1896 to join her husband only to find that he has forsaken his rich heritage to become "American" in Hester Street a 1974 film showing February 9.

In Mina Tannenbaum two young girls meet in a Paris ballet

class beginning a 25-year bitter-sweet friendship. The film was made in France in 1993 and was shot in French with English subtitles.

On Sunday April 27 The Nasty Girl will roll, a black comedy about a young German girl uncovering the hidden Nazi history of her town. And on May 25 is Catskill Honeymoon, about a Jewish resort hotel celebrating the 50th wedding anniversary of some longtime customers. Catskill Honeymoon is black and white and English with some Yiddish.

The film series is sponsored by The Greenberg Families Library and Agudath Israel Congregation. The Ottawa Jewish Film Society is a private film society, which operates through the Greenberg Families Library.

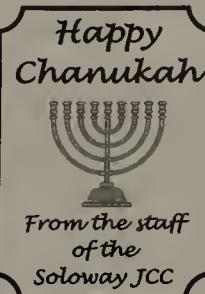


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& Snowboarding Program



Israeli House and Canada Israel Cultural Foundation
Invite the entire community to a
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Sunday, December 1, 2002
7:00 pm

Adults enjoy a delicious Israeli buffet dinner and entertainment by Israeli singer Shimon Peer at the SJCC

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Tickets available at the SJCC Membership & Guest Services Desk

For more information call Aviit Erlichman at the Vered Israel Cultural Centre 798-9818, ext 276.

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Gan Yelladim:

What better way to spend the afternoon?

Children ages 3 – 5 can spend the afternoon at the SJCC's Ganon Preschool, learning, playing creating crafts while making new friends. Each afternoon is based on a different theme, you choose the combination of afternoons that suits you.

The fun starts weekdays 12:30 - 3:30 and there are a few spots still available, so act quickly.

Monday – French

Your child will enjoy a fabulous forty minutes with Claire Greenberg's French class.

The children will also have snack, free play time and craft time. In the Fall the focus will be Dinosaur Mania, in Winter, Pirates at Play and in the Spring Castles and Dragons.

Tuesday – Gym Class

Play games and make use of our amazing gym in a half hour gym class with a personal trainer. The afternoon includes snack time free play and craft time. The theme for the Fall is Trees Pulp and Paper, in the Winter the theme is Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and the Spring, A Time to Grow.

Wednesday – Music

Children get the opportunity to make music and sing in forty minutes of music class with an experienced teacher. The afternoon includes snack time, free play time and craft time and the themes are Silly Suess in the Fall, Bunches of Munch for the Winter and the Spring theme is Captivating Carle.

For more information please call:

Ganon Manager Jennifer deVries at 798-9818, ext 280.

Thursday – Swimming Lessons

Swimming swimming in the swimming pool.

What a great way to spend the afternoon, Aqua Quest lessons and wonderful crafts. Thursday themes include Water Art in the Fall, The Ocean in the Winter and The Science of Water in the Spring.

Friday – Jewish Joys

Celebrate some of the best parts of our heritage and way of life.

The children will enjoy arts and crafts snack time circle time and outdoor play centered around a Jewish theme. Fall's theme is Mitzvot, Winter – My Synagogue and Spring – A Trip to Israel.

JET soars to high altitudes

By Miriam Gal-Taub

Judging by the numbers attending JET classes since Rosh Hashanah, it is a sure sign that many New Year resolutions have been kept.

Continuing classes include Living Judaism held on Tuesdays from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Use your lunch hour to learn the how's and why's of practical living Judaism. Some of the interesting topics include Shabbat, Kashrut, Mourning, Parent-Child Relationships, and more.

Thursdays are busy days for JET, starting first thing in the morning with a two-part class for women only, given by Lauren Shaps.

From 9:00 to 10:00 am we start with Pirkei Avot (Ethics of the Fathers), exploring the time-

less wisdom of our Sages and how it applies to the many challenges faced in daily life.

Taking a short five minute break for a coffee refill, we then continue from 10:00 to 11:00 am, discussing and debating the essential values of life using Rabbi E. Dessler's book, Strive for Truth. Using a uniquely deep and introspective approach, we delve into Jewish philosophy and ethics. This class is always inspiring and gives us much to think about until the next week.

Continuing into Thursday evening, from 7:30 to 8:30 pm, gain a behind the scenes look at the Torah portion of the week with the Parshat Hashavua class. Using a text-based analysis, classical commentaries will be used on one section of each Parsha.

Rabbi Zischa Shaps will highlight how the classical commentators developed their interpretations based on the wording of the text.

From 8:30 to 9:30 pm, learn to translate the text of the Chumash on your own. In Learn to Learn Chumash, Rabbi David Burger will provide the grammar needed for you to understand what you are reading. This course is intended for anyone who can already read Hebrew and wishes to improve their vocabulary.

Do not feel that you must wait until the next session to attend any of these classes. All of the above classes are held at the SJCC. For more information, contact us at 798-9818, ext. 247 or at jet@jccottawa.com.

Winter Camp Wonderland

Children from kindergarten to grade 6, spend your winter vacation at Winter Camp Wonderland where your days are filled with indoor and outdoor activities, games and arts and crafts, swimming, sports and more. Camp runs from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Thursday, and on Friday until 3:00 pm.

Monday, December 23rd
Tuesday, December 24th
Friday, December 27th

Monday, December 30th
Tuesday, December 31st

Thursday, January 2nd
Friday, January 3rd

The cost is \$30/day for Members and \$45/day for Non-Members for one child. Each additional child is \$20/day Members and \$25/day Non-Members. To register call 798-9818 ext.295 or for more information call Youth Program Manager, Gail Lieff at 798-9818 ext.303

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

A new face of fitness - Kate Aldred

When Kate Aldred originally went to get her personal training certification it was just meant to be a hobby but after years of working behind a desk as a technical trainer at a local consulting firm Kate was looking for a new challenge in the form of a career change.

Although her title Fitness Centre

Coordinator is new Kate has been around the SJCC since the summer teaching spinning classes.

Kate has always been actively involved in sports and fitness; she plays Ultimate Frisbee, she is a skier both downhill and cross country as well as an avid runner and hiker. Her motto... "Know your body, love your mind."



Pumping-up preteens with group personal training

The SJCC Fitness Centre introduces a new class designed specifically for preteens ages 11 and 12 (grade 6 & 7).

Preteen Group Personal Training is a safe and effective way for preteens to achieve an effective and safe workout including strength training, core

stability training and flexibility and teach them to develop healthy exercise habits early in life.

The course will be taught by fitness centre coordinator Kate Aldred and takes place on Mondays from 4:15 to 5:15 pm from January 6 to March

Pilates* Power Yoga*
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Aerobics*
Cardiokickboxing*
Adult Kickboxing*
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Carla Gencher
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3/2003, \$65 for members only.
Maximum 8 participants.

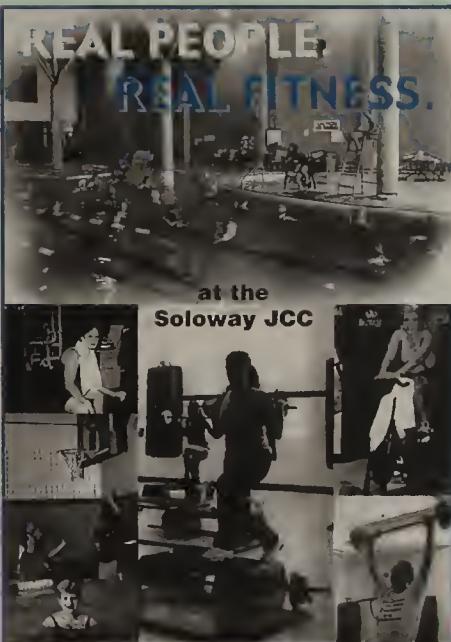
Winter Pilates Switch - The Winter Pilates class will be held on Tuesday night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm January 7 - March 4, replacing the Wednesday night 8:00 - 9:00 pm winter pilates class.



**December 14th
Water Volleyball
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21 Nadolny Sachs Private**

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IN CO-OPERATION WITH **Edelweiss**

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- Features:
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 - Bus service and ski rentals available (no daily riders permitted)
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- Departure - 8:20 am; Return - 4:15 pm

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2	Junior 1/2 Day Lessons* (age 6-12)	M \$209 • NM \$219	\$80	\$110
3	Teen 1/2 Day Lessons* (age 13-17)	M \$249 • NM \$259	\$80	\$110
4	All-Day Instruction (age 7-17)**	M \$318 • NM \$329	\$80	\$110
5	Lifts Only (age 6-12)	M \$115 • NM \$125	\$80	\$110
6	Lifts Only (age 13-18)	M \$165 • NM \$175	\$80	\$110
7	1/2-Day Snowboarding Lessons (age 9-17)	M \$249 • NM \$259	\$80	\$110
8	All-Day Snowboarding Lessons (age 9-17)	M \$318 • NM \$329	\$80	\$110

* Morning classes. Afternoon free ski. ** Classes 10:00 - 12:00 noon and 1:00 - 3:00 pm.

Responsible bus and lunchtime supervision

Maximum of 120 spaces ONLY available in lessons. Don't be disappointed. Register now!

REGISTRATION:

Pick up your ski/snowboarding registration form at the SJCC Member & Guest Services desk or phone 798-9818, ext. 295. For more information, contact Jon Braun, Athletics and Leagues Manager, at ext. 267.

~~Checklist, Visa, Mastercard and American Express are acceptable to Hapoel Ski Program, Soloway Jewish Community Centre, 21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9.~~

Group information will be mailed to you in early January.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

January 6 - Edelweiss; February 3 - Teen Bus.

Rental measurements taken on January 9 at 7:00 pm, SJCC. All skiers who need rentals should be present to ensure proper fit.

REFUND POLICY:

Complete refund less administrative fee of \$10 if written notice of withdrawal received by Jon Braun by December 20, 2002. No refunds after December 21, except for medical reasons.



Program
No. 9

FOR TEENS ONLY

Hapoel Teen Ski Club Grades 9 - 13

Three Sundays
Skiing Different Hills
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DATES: February 9, 16, 23

HILLS: Mont Tremblant
Mont Ste-Marie
Edelweiss

COST: M\$200/NM\$250 (rentals not included)
Departure: 9:00 am from the SJCC

Outlook at Food Bank improves: cash and synagogue 'contacts' needed

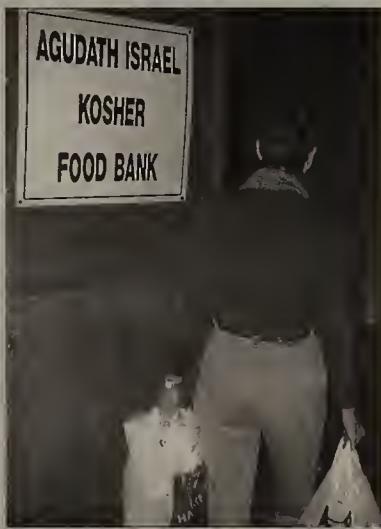
By Ruth Kahane Goldberg

Since last Chanukah, when the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin issued a community-wide appeal to aid the Kosher Food Bank, the agency has been able to serve and slightly increase its number of clients. But cash donations continue to be crucial.

"We're no longer in dire straits but we spend a considerable amount of money each month," says Sharon Nodelman of Agudath Israel Synagogue, the project's coordinator. "It takes a lot of \$10 donations to make \$3,000 a month."

To cover the cost of purchasing food for 130 packages a month, the Kosher Food Bank relies on cash donations and, to a lesser degree, on grocery items from food collections by schools and synagogues.

Screened by Jewish Family Services (JFS), the recipients are immigrants, seniors, younger people



The Kosher Food Bank is in need of volunteers and cash donations so it can continue its work.

with families and people who have been debilitated by illness. They use the

food bank's two distribution

days a month as "an emergency stopgap measure,"

Nodeiman says. "The community is more attuned to the food bank's existence. It has a higher profile now," she says.

Currently Agudath Israel and Temple Israel each coordinates one distribution per month. Adath Shalom Congregation became involved this fall by sending two regular volunteers and dedicating funds to the project.

Hillel Academy's food drives, three times a year, involve donations from a wide cross-section of the community. However synagogue participation still needs to be strengthened.

"We've tried hard, but have not been successful, to establish a contact at each synagogue. There has been very little response," she says.

Prior to the High Holidays, the Kosher Food Bank's budget had a "reprieve" when a private donation made to Jewish Family Services benefitted it.

The donor generously paid for all Jewish holiday meals for JFS clients, distributed in the form of grocery vouchers. The food bank, as a result, did not need to give its usual food basket before the High Holidays. It usually costs the food bank \$50 per client at that time of year.

Collecting items for the

food bank is more helpful when a group calls ahead to see what specific items are needed at that time, Nodeiman says. There have also been problems with goods that do not have a *hechsher* symbol. Any items that are not suitable are given to another food bank.

The project is looking for volunteers to help once per month to be part of the "efficient, amazing assembly line" of volunteers who pack items on the Sunday of distribution or re-stock shelves on a Thursday.

"We're always looking for new people for winter and summer substitutes," Nodelman says.

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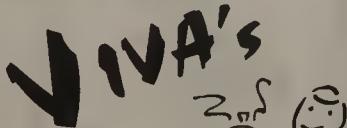
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Look what you're missing!

Hillel Lodge policy on solicitation of residents

Lodge Line

Stephen Schneiderman
Executive Director

As a charitable institution, the Lodge understands the importance of fundraising. But as a Home for the Aged, it recognizes the need to serve and protect the best interests of its residents. Ultimately the residents' care, comfort and support are its primary focus.

Keeping these two statements in mind, the Lodge has a policy that prohibits direct solicitation of its residents without the resident having his/her power of attorney for finances (usually a trusted friend or family member) present.

Why? Could the Lodge be accused of taking a patronizing position or censoring a resident's visits?

It is the Lodge's position that a good number of its residents, while mentally capable, are psychologically or emotionally vulnerable. Many residents who have a long history of generosity may no longer be in the same financial position they once were, or else they may not be able to access the same amount of information as when they were more active in the community or the business world.

Other residents have no family at all or others with whom they wish to share their

financial position. These residents should have an appointed power of attorney for finances or else, legal counsel.

The Lodge has no wish to censor visits or visitors. The policy is designed to create a fair and even way to allow residents the opportunity to make rational, unhurried decisions regarding any philanthropic requests. Face to face visits by canvassers creates undue stress on some residents.

To that end, any person or organization with intentions to visit a resident for fundraising purposes, must first contact the Executive Director of the Lodge for authorization. He will then put the charity in touch with the resident's power of attorney for finances and/or legal counsel.

The two parties may then organize a meeting with the resident present. In this way everyone has time to consider or to present a proposal properly.

Any individual, charity or other organization failing to comply with this policy will be asked to leave the Lodge and not return.

It should be noted that the Lodge applies the same conditions to itself. It will not directly solicit any resident for funds without including proper representation by the resident's power of attorney for finances. No resident will receive a visit from staff or board members asking for charitable funds without the proper procedures being followed.



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Rabbi Arnold Fine, Rabbi Howard Finkelstein, and Rabbi Steven Garten
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Community-Wide Mission to Israel May 4th - May 11th, 2003

Please join in this community-wide celebration of Yom Ha'atzmaut in Eretz Israel.

For more information, please contact Marty Davis, UJA Director at mdavis@jccottawa.com



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Aviv Festival & Walk-A-Thon
SUNDAY, MAY 25th, 2003



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SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

- Good interpersonal skills, a team player
- Advanced skills in Data-Base and general computer knowledge are essential
- Flexibility and initiative and strong organizational skills
- 3 to 5 years in a management position
- Knowledge of the Jewish community would be an asset

Please submit confidential résumés by December 10, 2002 to:
Marty Davis, Executive Director UJA/OJCF,
21 Nadolny Sachs Private, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1R9
Fax: 613-798-4696 • mdavis@jccottawa.com

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Israel Line

Carl Alpert

Haifa – So Israelis are going to the polls on January 28 to elect 120 members of the Knesset. They will be voting under a system quite unlike that in the U.S. No levers to pull or buttons to push or even the need to mark an X. All ballots are

printed in advance. Although the votes are going to choose the members of the Knesset, the voter has only to select one printed slip identifying the party of his choice, insert it in an envelope, and drop it in the ballot box. They will have a choice of many slips,

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How elections are conducted in Israel

each containing the symbol of a political party, but not the names of any individuals. The parties will have already chosen and announced the names of their candidates, and the voters approve them, en bloc, by party.

In the pre-election preparations, each party draws up its list. The big fight in Likud and Labor centers around who will head the list, and thereby become the candidate for Prime Minister. The big parties bravely list 120 names. If 50 per cent of all votes are cast for Party A, the first 60 names on its list become Knesset members. If only ten per cent of the vote goes to that party, the first twelve names on the list are elected.

Obviously no party is going to elect all its candidates, so the pre-election choice within the party is marked by much jockeying as candidates seek to get their names high in realistic places on the list.

For example, if pre-election polls or expectations are that large party A may succeed in getting enough votes to warrant election of the first 35 names on its list, the ambitious candidates must assure that their names are within that 35 bracket. The next few after that are marginal hopefuls, and all the rest are listed for prestige only, so that the individual can tell their grandchildren that in the 2003 elections they were an official, listed candidate for the Knesset. In the meantime, the struggle is now going on within the primaries of the large parties.

But what about election of the Prime Minister? An innovation in the last two elections was the choice of the Prime Minister by popular vote, so that the voters had

two envelopes to drop into the ballot box, one for their party and the other for the Premier. The system caused difficulties and has been discarded. Now, under the system which had been in effect previously, the Prime Minister will be chosen by the Knesset after the 120 members have been seated. The head of the leading party is requested by the President of the State to present the Knesset with his proposed slate for the government cabinet. Since it is highly unlikely that any party will have a majority, the individual named will invite other parties to join in a coalition so as to assure a comfortable stability. This is done by offering such parties cabinet posts in return for their support. This involves difficult and sometimes protracted negotiations with a number of the smaller parties.

Who can vote? All citizens, age 18 years or more, whose names will be checked against the approved list, and who will be asked to show their identification cards at the polls. Today there are more than four and a half million eligible voters, about 20 per cent of them Arabs. Members of the diplomatic corps and of the merchant marine, who are on duty overseas on election day, may participate in special absentee polls. A proposal that all Israelis living abroad, who have chosen to retain their citizenship should also be permitted to vote, has not yet been approved by the Knesset and will not be in effect this year. Had it been passed, it would have qualified tens of thousands of additional voters.

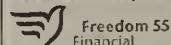
Under the law, it is relatively easy to register as a party. All it requires is presen-

tation of an application with 100 signatures, text of the party platform and other organizational documents, and payment of 70,000 shekels. At the moment there are no less than 59 parties registered, though to judge from the experience of previous years, there could be about 25 or 30 which will undertake the heavy financial burden of campaigning for voter support. Since a party must attain only one and a half per cent of all the votes cast to qualify for a seat in the Knesset, the end result may be a Knesset composed of anywhere from 12 to 15 parties. Proposal has often been made to raise that mar-

gin to 5 per cent or more, to eliminate the multiplicity of small parties, but that has not yet been approved. Even the big parties have shied away from urging the change, lest they antagonize small parties whose votes and support they may need to build their coalition.

On election day the polls close at 10 pm and the manual count of the ballots begins. But Israel television usually sets up an unofficial, informal poll of the voters as they emerge from the voting station, and a pretty good idea of the expected results is available in a matter of minutes.

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A Touch of Klez concert helps Israel

The Jewish community came out in full force to support Israel by attending *A Touch of Klez*' Concert for Peace. Almost \$8,000.00 was raised to aid the Israel Relief Fund for terrorist victims.

Welcome greetings were given in seven languages. The extensive program featured eight guest artists, including Cantor Benlolo and a Russian dancer on stage. It was a *fraileach* happening when Haim Divon, the Israeli Ambassador for Canada, was seated in the middle of the floor, with the audience dancing a hora around him.

A Touch of Klez is a grass roots community band,

which began as a jazz ensemble four years ago. It gradually evolved into an eclectic Klezmer band.

When *A Touch of Klez* grew to be well over a dozen members, the rehearsals moved to Hillel Lodge where they have been held for the last two years. Their mascot, Jever, a four-year-old dachshund, supervises most rehearsals.

Music is the band's hobby. Their uniqueness lies in the unconditional acceptance of the wide variance in their diverse individual musical abilities, talents, and backgrounds.

A few have played music professionally, but many are coming back to

music from long absences.

The band members' ages span over 60 years. They include medical doctors, scientists, homemakers, authors, musical students, government employees, salespersons, teachers, retirees, a librarian, a laughter therapist, and a pilot. Band Co-Director Lisa Miller says, "Our love of the music closes any gaps and brings us together. We're like a big family."

While taking their music seriously, the band members practice an easy-going approach to their performances. The band takes every opportunity to relate to their audience, even handing out kazoos. They use a karaoke style with projected song lyrics.



A Touch of Klez is performing at Hillel Lodge on December 1 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

A Touch of Klez takes pride in knowing that they play over 200 songs that are the same melodies that Jews in Israel and throughout the Diaspora also play.

The band's zest for heart-felt soul

music encompasses Israeli, Russian, Yiddish, and both Sephardic and Ashkenazi traditions.

The band enjoys featuring many talented Ottawa artists, including cantors,

children and Hillel Lodge residents. They will be performing at Hillel Lodge at the Hillel Lodge Auxiliary Chanukah Party, Dec. 1 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. All are welcome to attend.

Harry Kitzemian



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Haifa U night at Yuk Yuk's successful

By Ross Hendin

Recently, I took to the stage for a few moments at the 2nd annual Canadian Friends of Haifa Yuk Yuk's night. There was an audience

of over 150 people and because of them we raised enough money for one Argentinean student to study for a year at Haifa U.

I will admit that I found the room to be a little tough. But I wasn't there to make them 'Yuk.'

I am a 6 foot white male, not exactly alienated on campus here, but in Israel I would be targeted at some schools simply because of the *Kipah* on my head, and my belief in a homeland. This is what compels me to come out of my little Ottawa bubble, and invest my time and energy in helping people understand what the Canadian Friends of Haifa is all about. To me, there are 3 unique and equally inspiring points that the university features.

The University of Haifa is

known for its technology school, IBM has their largest technology centre outside of the U.S. on the Haifa U campus. The school trains the leading minds in this area, and its graduates help fuel economic growth in the IT field. The defense and military wing of the institution is why Haifa U is considered the 'West-Point' of the Middle East. It continues to train tomorrow's tactical minds.

Finally, and to me the most important aspect of the school, is the academic environment it fosters. There are Jewish, Druze and Arab students all learning together. Through education we grow to understand and tolerate each other. The notion of peace through education inspires me, if for no other reason than I have seen it in Canadian classrooms, and I

took the experience for granted.

The comedians certainly told better jokes than the few that I managed to "crack." If you want to know just how much fun a night this can be, keep your eyes peeled for the 3rd Haifa U Yuk Yuk's night!

Mazal Tov!



Engaged!

Marjorie and Michael Feldman (Ottawa) and Maura and Dr. Richard Berry (Natick Massachusetts) are delighted to announce the engagement of their children Mark and Allison. Mark, a graduate of McGill University, is Director of Sales at AgION Technologies, Wakefield, MA. Allison, a graduate of Brandeis University, is a rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, OH. A summer 2004 wedding is being planned.

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Bronfman Youth Fellowship: a once-in-a-lifetime experience

By Talya Kagedan
and Hannah Mayne

After an extensive application process and two interviews in New York City, the two of us couldn't have been happier. We had been selected as Bronfman Youth Fellows for 2002. Along with 24 other North American students our age, we travelled the length and breadth of Israel, not only in its geographical dimensions, but also in its history and peoples.

The Bronfman Youth

Fellowships in Israel is a unique program in that it brings together students and faculty from diverse religious and political backgrounds to create a pluralistic learning environment. During the course of the summer we studied texts and issues from the point of view of every Jewish denomination covering a myriad of topics including the Talmud, Bible, Jewish history, Israeli politics and poetry.

Even though our formal



Hannah Mayne (left) and Talya Kagedan

Bronfman experience has ended, we continue to be part of the Bronfman com-

munity. We are invited every few months to attend seminars and reunions with past

fellows to continue learning in the spirit of our Bronfman summer. In addition, we are engaged in social action projects, using the leadership skills we developed this summer in order to help our community.

Another aspect of the summer was building relationships with the North American fellows and also with the Amitai Bronfman, our 20 Israeli counterparts. From the Amitai we learned aspects of Israeli life and delved more

deeply into the world of Israeli politics. We maintain our friendships with our new North American and Israeli friends and continue to learn from one another.

All in all, we have had a mind opening, intellectually stimulating and just plain fun summer. We are grateful to the Samuel Bronfman Foundation for providing us with the opportunity to strengthen our friendship, learn from incredible people, and to experience Israel in a completely new way.

Israelis speak out: an insider's view of life under siege

(Continued from page 1)

Arabs, that their silent majority would support a political compromise – an independent Arab state alongside a Jewish state. Unfortunately, just when Israel was at its most conciliatory, the Palestinian leadership made their intentions crystal clear: [They] were and are not interested in peace. Had they wanted it, we would have been able to close a deal at Camp David.

"The second dream shattered was that of the political right (religious and secular). They felt that if only we were firm and tough enough, the Palestinians would be a push-over, and we could have the land without the problem of their people. The Palestinians, to the right's dismay, have shown that they



Dr. Jim Shalom

can be as skilled with rifles as our best sharpshooters. They have made it crystal clear that the only way we can maintain the territories is through brute and overwhelming force."

Shalom's visits to Arab villages are now more care-

fully orchestrated. Yet despite the dangers and the disappointment that peace no longer appears to be within grasp, Shalom has no regrets about making aliyah, either.

"I go to Canada frequently, and professionally, I could probably still set up myself and my family if I wanted. But I don't regret my choice. The North American model of Judaism, while positive and successful in many regards, is also beset with its own limitations. The children of even the most central Jewish figures on the North American horizon often end up assimilating. And if not them, then their children."

But it does take its toll. Michal Bratman is a Sabra. The 26-year-old now lives in Ottawa after immigrating to Canada last year with her husband. She had reached her limit.

"I really hated that feeling of fear," she says. Her daily bus-rides to the Technion in Haifa were spent trying

to determine who, around her, looked like a probable terrorist.

"It's a terrible feeling. Imagine doing that every morning. I couldn't live like this. Living in terror, I guess, was not for me."

Michal and her husband were the only ones, among their friends, to leave Israel. What is so sad, she says, is that even though their friends are staying, they are not optimistic.

"They kind of lost their hope for something positive to happen and they have this black humour now. These are young people, educated with at least an undergraduate degree, and they're working. They're the next generation of Israel and they don't really see hope in the future."

Although Diaspora Jewry has been responsive to Israel's emergency needs in the face of the suicide bombings, many Israelis feel that it is not enough to send money here and there, nor is it

enough just to send money. Being sympathetic doesn't count if it isn't turned into action.

"It's not that the Jews in the Diaspora aren't empathetic," says Rosenberg. "Of course they are. But that hasn't evolved into a tangible form of support, such as coming here in droves, helping us cope with the severe economic downturn."

Action also means challenging the anti-Israel (really, anti-Jewish) sentiment that is gaining ground in Europe and in North America, across university campuses in particular.

"Disassociating from Israel, Israel's policies or Judaism will not absolve the Diaspora of their 'crime' of association," says Shalom. "We should be learning from

local Palestinian activism. We should be learning our history and rebutting the onslaught of propaganda and disinformation."

UJA Chair, Marty Davis, now in Ottawa on sabbatical, made aliyah from New York City 21 years ago.

"The current situation is different from any other situation," he says. "The war is in our backyard. We're built for short skirmishes or wars. We're not built for long-term engagement."

"On the other hand, life goes on. I think the Israeli mentality is to try to get on with it even though it's become more difficult."

"Despite all the problems, Israel is where it's at," sums up Shalom. "It is still a central foundation for modern Judaism."

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SCHOOL NEWS

University recruiters visit YRHS

By Maxine Rabinovitch,
executive director

YRHS works hard to prepare its students for university and making career choices. In addition to the mandatory civics and careers program, which all students must take, our students also have the opportunity to job shadow in careers which are of interest to them. Last year students shadowed a vet, lawyers, the police, an actuary, chemical and electrical engineers, a pathologist, and a broadcaster. Through these



Recruiter Jennifer Kennedy
explains the benefits
of attending Algonquin College.

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Knowing about the universities and having people available to answer questions is a very important part of the decision making process. During the month of October staff from the University of Ottawa, Algonquin College, McGill University and Brandeis University visited our students. Our grade 11 and 12 students learned of the various programs offered, admission requirements,

what student life is like, clubs, scholarships, overseas study programs and articulated programs. The students asked lots of questions.

Brandeis University, located in Waltham Massachusetts is internationally recognized as one of the top universities and research facilities. YRHS was very honoured that they sought us out for a visit and wanted to recruit our students.

Over the years many of our graduates have been accepted at McGill University. Their recruiters visited us because of the academic excellence of YRHS. This is quite an honour as they do not visit many schools.



Hillel Academy holds Rosh Chodesh Kislev "Daven-in"

On November 8, Hillel Academy celebrated Rosh Chodesh Kislev with separate boys and girls services. The boys invited their fathers to attend the services at Hillel Lodge with them. Sam Levine led the service and gave a Devar Torah. Alex Wozniak read from the Torah. The girls m'yan was led by Naomi Schwartz and she gave a Devar Torah. The services concluded with a breakfast of Danish and juice.

What is happening in Jewish Education in Ottawa?

By Charis Mittelman,
chairperson BJE

The Ottawa Board of Jewish Education is a group of school principals, synagogue representatives, and community leaders from organizations involved in Jewish education for children and adults.

We work together to further the quality of both teaching and learning. We coordinate professional development days and seminars and are involved in organizing many projects that affect educational institutions in the Ottawa Jewish community.

In the past year we have been involved in a Sunday afternoon professional development program for Judaic studies teachers, arranging

for a computer donation to the schools from a downsizing business, coordinating the Foundation application for further funds so that all the schools could have money to provide special education for their students, sponsoring a forum for the Jewish community on the importance of Jewish education, helping the Shoah committee find a candidate for the Mendel and Valerie Good scholarship for further Holocaust studies, arranging for teacher Shirley Schildkraut to hold a seminar for other teachers and share her knowledge after she returns from a Holocaust teaching seminar, and working with the Ottawa Jewish Veterans to involve the schools and their students in a

Nov. 11 ceremony and memorial tribute.

We are in the midst of our biggest project so far. Many of our Judaic studies teachers will be retiring soon and in order to attract new teachers and ensure a quality education for our children, we are proposing creating a scholarship to York University's teacher education program in Judaic Studies. We are asking the community to sponsor a scholarship that will pay the tuition and in return these lucky students must come back and teach in our schools. These teachers will be qualified to teach not only Judaic studies, but will be Ontario certified to teach secular courses as well. York has agreed to send supervi-

sors to Ottawa during the students practise teaching so that our student can be involved in Ottawa Jewish education right from the start.

If you are interested in sponsoring this scholarship or being part of a committee of sponsors please call Charis Mittelman (824-7351).

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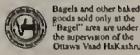
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SCHOOL NEWS

Rambam-Maimonides revises curriculum: many innovations

By Froma Rose

Co-Chair,

Rambam-Maimonides
General Studies Committee

Everyone here at Rambam-Maimonides is very excited about the results of all the hard work that our parents and staff have undertaken.

Our curriculum has been revised and improved. Testing done last year proved that our children are thriving academically. Most grades tested at least a grade level above that anticipated for their year, some were higher. We are very proud of this accomplishment and the teachers who made it possible.

Many parents were active in researching and promoting this new curriculum and we continue to urge all parents to play an



The afternoon chess club is proving to be popular with the students at Rambam-Maimonides.

active role in the school.

Parental participation in decision making at Rambam is facilitated through the General Curriculum and Studies Committee. The mandate of this committee is to monitor our

general studies program and to make certain that the administration is aware of the issues and to advise the administration on how to respond to parental concerns.

Last year, among the

proposals of the committee was one to institute school uniforms. This benefits both students and parents as everyone knows what they are expected to wear. Competition between students is eliminated and cre-

ativity encouraged as the children learn to express their individuality in constructive ways.

We have introduced extracurricular activities to keep our kids busy and open new avenues of challenge and opportunity. A sewing club and a chess club are operating to the delight of many of our students. Additionally, a karate club has been started under the aegis of Dale Bay. These clubs are open to everyone regardless of age or level of skill. A stim-

ulating and challenging environment for all our children is being provided as well as imparting new skills.

Children of all Jewish backgrounds and levels of observance are warmly welcomed at Rambam. The atmosphere is very "heimish" yet professional. The small size of our school makes everyone feel like a member of a very big and close knit family. We look forward to meeting new relations and friends. Give us a call.

Money matters at Torah Academy

The grade 4/5 class at Torah Academy has been working on a unit of study on Canadian money. As part of their learning, the entire class participated in the Royal Canadian Mint's Quarter Design Contest for Canada's 2003 quarter. Each student produced an original design with the hope that their coin will be selected by the mint as the next special Canada Day quarter. The results were excellent and the students thoroughly enjoyed their learning experience. We are extremely proud of our students and their efforts and wish them all good luck with the contest.

Other things studied included the barter system, how money is made, budgeting, the system of "cashless money" (cheques, debit and credit cards). Highlights of the unit have been a visit to the Currency museum where the students participated in hands on activities about counterfeiting, bank note series and design. We are especially proud of two students, Menachem Benzaquen and Sara Agulnik whose designs for



My Canadian Coin Design 2003 by (from top to bottom)
Motshe Fogel, age 10;
Kirmya Clinton, age 11;
and Betzalel Flachman, age 8.
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Torah Academy students learn about counterfeiting at the currency museum.

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UJA/Partnership 2000 mission connects with Israelis

Editor's note: Apparently the print gremlins found their way into the November 11, 2002 issue of the Bulletin. This story, which began on page 5, was to continue on page 14. However, because of technical complications, it began again. We are reprinting the story now in its entirety.

By Julie Byczynski

At a time when many feel powerless in the face of endless violence in Israel, there is a tremendous sense of strength that comes with showing one's support in a tangible way. Fifteen people from Ottawa showed their support for Israel in this time of crisis by joining a national UJA mission of 34 participants from October 14 to 20. Led by Partnership 2000 National Chair Donna Dolansky, Ottawa's contin-

gent boasted the largest group from a single community.

Isolation is a by-product of the terrorist attacks and suicide bombings that often go unnoticed by the rest of the world. For a people who are accustomed to a booming tourist trade, the dramatic drop off in visits from travellers, Jews and non-Jews, has been particularly devastating for Israelis, economically as well as emotionally. People travelling to Israel during the past two years of conflict often come back with stories of being thanked on the street for coming and this mission was no exception. UJA Director Marty Davis commented on the desperation of local merchants: "Shop owners welcomed us with open arms and their stores were filled with beautiful artwork and crafts. Paintings were being sold for a few shekels. They thanked us profusely for coming and spending a few dollars."

Sid and Sally Kardash, who spearheaded Augudat Israel's initiative to raise enough funds to purchase a Magen David Adom ambulance, were also among the participants. During the mission, the Kardash's were able to take part in a brief ceremony at the Magen David Adom offices in Jerusalem. Another benefit of visiting Israel is to see

first hand the impact of efforts like the Relief Fund and meet people who directly benefit from dollars raised in our own community.

A full day was spent in the city of Metulla in the Galilee panhandle. The community with which Ottawa is twinned under the Partnership 2000 program. Located close to the border with Lebanon, educators try to focus the minds of young students on the prospect of peace. At the primary school twinned with Ottawa's Hillel Academy, mission participants helped children create pieces of a puzzle that when fit together form a hand as a sign of peace, or *chamsah*.

Later the same day, the group was taken to Kfar Saba to an absorption centre to meet with Argentinian olim who were university students finishing their education in Israel. Their enthusiasm and willingness to start again echo the hope for the future shared by the Partnership 2000 schools.

The following day brought to light two exceptionally moving organizations, each supported in part by funds from North America, including Ottawa. The Yad Lakashish Centre for the Elderly provides employment for seniors who cannot survive on their pension alone. At the centre,

people in their 70s, 80s, and 90s earn a living by binding books, making crafts, creating pottery, and running the gift shop. Like other Israeli social programs, the centre is under tremendous strain due to the increase in poverty and government cutbacks.

The group visited the headquarters of ZAKA, and participants were struck by the contrast of these two organizations that both rely on the strength and determination of the Jewish people. ZAKA's network of 600 trained volunteers are often the first paramedics at the scene of a bombing or terror attack. Their gruesome but necessary task is to identify and retrieve body parts of victims, so that families can have the peace of mind of laying their loved one to rest.

Unfortunately, the need for their service continues, and ZAKA is faced with a shortage of medical supplies, defibrillators, and mopeds. The headquarters itself, located in an old bomb shelter, needs to be relocated to a proper facility with more storage space. UJA Director Marty Davis is committed to sending money raised from the 2003 Israel Relief Fund to ZAKA and many other institutions and agencies facing hard times.

A hard reality of this

UJA mission was that one of the Ottawa community's most loved members, Gaby Sasseon, was not able to be a part as he had planned. With Gaby's passing this summer, the community not only lost a dedicated volunteer and UJA supporter, but also someone whose commitment to Israel was both inspiring and relentless. Dancing late into the evening on Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Gaby's love for Israel and passion for life was clear. Gaby's wife Suzanne and close friend Anna Lee Chippout participated in the mission in part to show their support of Israel but also to witness Gaby's unveiling at Eretz Hachayim Cemetery. Mission participants and friends and family from Israel gathered to pay their respects to Gaby and to celebrate his life and his practice of living each moment to the fullest.

With every meeting, shopping trip, briefing or meal came sincere appreciation and thanks from Israelis: for coming, for seeing, and for listening. This UJA mission was by no means a vacation, but nonetheless an unforgettable trip. Jane Gordon says she and her husband Martin "were both deeply affected by the mission. Rather than being a tourist trip, it was a chance to connect with Israelis from many walks of life and see how Israeli society is being affected by the current situation." Plans are in progress for a full-fledged Ottawa mission to Israel this spring, where hopefully, as many as 50 or more Ottawans will visit Israel in solidarity and lasting support.

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Kid Lit

Deanna Silverman

Alexandra's Scroll
The Story Of The First Hanukkah
 By Miriam Chaikin
 Illustrated by Stephen Fieser
 Henry Holt and Company 2002
 116 pps. Ages 9-12

Set in Judea in the years 168-165 B.C.E., *Alexandra's Scroll* is both a warm, gentle coming of age story and a compelling story about religious and societal values. Written in semi-diary form, a vibrant Jerusalem girl records her perspective on the reign of the Greek-Syrian ruler, Antiochus Epiphanes, and the origins of Chanukah.

Imagining what it would have been like to grow up in Jerusalem within a short walk of The Temple with every New Moon and festival a major sacrificial ceremonial. Now imagine the impact of Antiochus' war against the Jewish religion, his desecration of that Temple, and the Maccabean revolt.

That is the story Alexandra tells as she, supposedly imitating Queen Esther, assumes the role of scribe to record those historic times along with her own reactions and daily concerns.

That those were dangerous times goes without saying. However readers gain a clearer awareness and understanding of the degree of treachery, Hellenization, resistance, and heroism as we follow a reluctant Alexandra from Jerusalem to Modi'in, Yavne, Jaffa and, finally, hopefully back to a recaptured Jerusalem.

In the process readers glimpse the lifestyle and economy of different parts of Judea and the everyday difficulties of being away from home, from friends and from The Temple. We also realize the true meaning of a citizen's army as scribes, goldsmiths, wine makers, etc. transforms themselves into Maccabean warriors.

Above all, readers who identify with Alexandra will feel the significance of The Temple for Jews living in Judea and throughout the ancient world. We'll experience its majesty, its pageantry, and, ultimately, pure joy at its miraculous rebirth, a rebirth we celebrate to this

A Chanukah mélange: Part Two

very day.

A map of Judea circa 165 B.C.E. and full colour pictures enhance the sense of place and time for this warm, deceptively simple, occasionally humorous, occasionally horrific and always interesting tale that is *Alexandra's Scroll*.

From my family to yours, Happy Chanukah!

Runaway Dreidel!

By Leslea Newman
 Illustrated by Kyrsten Brooker
 Henry Holt and Company 2002
 Unpaged. Ages 4-8

Within the past year, Jewish content Kid Lit has exploded with books based on *The Gingerbread Man*. I can't help wondering if it's serendipity, a conspiracy, or a few writing friends challenging each other to pursue a specific theme. Whatever the reason, the result for readers is sheer fun.

In *Runaway Dreidel!* author Leslea Newman takes the notion of paying homage one-step further. In addition to a storyline based on the mayhem of an inanimate object with a mind of its own, she also imitates the wit and artistry of a classic gentle poem, *The Night Before Christmas*.

Most of us have probably heard or read Chanukah-ized versions of that poem before. None that I've seen, however, holds a candle to *Runaway Dreidel!* It is truly a fresh approach to both classics. The rhyme pattern holds true without a hint of being forced. The content reflects a thoroughly kosher whiff. And the climax is a fantasy on miracles and light. Who could ask for anything more?

On the first night of Chanukah, as the rest of the family busies themselves preparing for the holiday, a young boy spins his shiny new dreidel. How was he to know that one spin would lead him and his family on a merry chase through their apartment, city streets, into the country, out to the beach and, for the dreidel, far beyond?

Artist Kyrsten Brooker used a multimedia approach to produce the book's lively pictures. Helter skelter, they take readers on a whirlwind trip ending at a site that vaguely resembles a mix between the walls of Jerusalem and the shoreline of old Jaffa before returning the boy and his family to the comfort and safety of their Brooklyn-style brownstone and their Chanukah party.



From *Runaway Dreidel!*

I have no doubt that kids will delight in following that *Runaway Dreidel* this Chanukah and for many years to come.

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Soup to Nuts

Donna Karlin

Chanukah is fast approaching and it's time to make latkes! This is about the only time of year I fry anything these days, but I will not resort to baking latkes. To me that defeats the entire purpose of what the holiday stands for. So instead, we try to eat a couple instead of a dozen, though it's a VERY hard thing to do!

Enjoy and have a very happy Chanukah!



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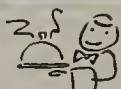


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Forget about baked: It just wouldn't be Chanukah without fried latkes

Latkes made with Vidalia Onion

2 Vidalia onions, grated
2 large potatoes, grated
2 small carrots, grated
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
4 tbsp flour
Salt and pepper to taste
Vegetable oil for frying
Brown paper bags or paper towels for draining
Apple Sauce and/or Sour Cream for dipping

Grate the potato and carrot alternately with pieces of the onion. This will keep the potato mixture from turning dark. Combine grated vegetables with egg, flour, salt and pepper. Heat vegetable oil in a large frying pan over medium high heat. Working in batches and using heaping tablespoons of vegetable mixture, drop mixture into hot pan. Flatten slightly and cook until undersides are golden brown. Flip and brown on the other side. Only turn once and cook until quite browned on each side. That will prevent the latkes from absorbing a lot of oil. Drain on paper towels or brown paper bags.

Serve with apple sauce or sour cream. Recipe can be doubled or tripled.

Zucchini Latkes with Parmesan Cheese

2 lb zucchini
1/2 lb russet potatoes, peeled
1/2 tbsp lemon juice
1 cup chopped scallions
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 tsp minced garlic
3/4 cup chopped parsley
1 tsp salt
1/2 tbsp pepper
1/3 cup flour
2 eggs

Peanut or vegetable oil for frying
Grate the zucchini and potatoes and toss in the lemon juice to prevent browning. Squeeze the zucchini and potatoes through a sieve until as dry as possible. Add the scallions, cheese, garlic, 1/2 cup of the parsley, salt and pepper, flour, and eggs and toss to combine very well. Heat 1/2" of oil in a frying pan until hot and add thin silver dollar-size pancakes, frying over high heat until golden brown and crispy. When serving, sprinkle with a little more salt and the remaining chopped parsley.

Potato Latkes with a Tex-Mex Twist

1 1/2 lb russet potatoes peeled
2 eggs, lightly beaten
2 tsp potato starch
2 tbsp matzo meal
1 tbsp chopped scallion
1/2 tbsp each chopped cilantro and dried oregano
1 1/2 tsp salt
Freshly ground black pepper
Vegetable oil for frying
Roasted red peppers and medium hot salsa for garnish
Sour cream (optional)

In a food processor grate the potatoes. Rinse in a strainer until water runs clear and squeeze dry. Combine eggs, matzo meal, potato starch, chopped scallions, herbs, salt and freshly ground pepper. Add drained potatoes to this mixture and mix well. Line a baking pan with paper towels or brown paper bags. In a large frying pan, heat 1/4" of oil over medium high heat until hot. Drop heaping tablespoons of potato mixture and cook for 3 to 4 minutes each side or until deep golden brown.

Eat right away or keep warm in 200° oven.

Serve topped with slivers of roasted red peppers, and salsa and, if desired, add a small dollop of sour cream.

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The Book Beat

Kinneret Globerman



Writer Elizabeth Hardwick once said that, "the greatest gift is the passion for reading." I think the next best gift is a book itself. Here then, is an eclectic mix to choose from.

Judaikitsch: Tchotchkies, Schmatzes, and Nosherei

By Jennifer Traig and Victoria Traig
Chronicle Books (distributed by Raincoast Books)
Softcover, 2002 (colour photographs)

This book is a hoot! It's a colourful, crazy collection of crafts and recipes like you've never seen before (and I mean, *never!*). And you don't have to like cooking or even be crafty to get a kick out of it, either.

Take the Neil Tzedakah box, for example. (Remember the singer, Neil Sedaka?) It's a tzedakah box unlike any other. Not campy enough? How about a borscht belt you can make yourself? My favourite is the Hebrew School handbag made of discarded *machberes*.

Instructions are given for every craft and recipe entry. (The recipes are as zany as the crafts: Jewshi (that's right; Jewish sushi), Jewmaki (a.k.a. Rumaki), Berry Manilow, to name a few.) Great holiday gift book. Offbeat sense of humour required.

The Golden Land: The Story of Jewish Immigration to America

By Rabbi Joseph Telushkin
Harmony Books/Random House

Hardcover, 2002 (sepia photographs and drawings)

All history books should be this much fun to read. Rabbi Telushkin has given us a lesson in Jewish American history that is immediate, and engaging. *Golden Land* chronicles the story of the migrations of Jews to the United States of America, beginning with the first community in 1654.

But the Rabbi doesn't just tell the story in words and pictures. Following in the tradition of the *Griffin and Sabine* series, he invites the reader to become a participant. Almost every page offers a document, pamphlet or poster that can be removed from an inlaid pocket...like the letter sent in

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1790 by then newly-elected president, George Washington, to the Jewish community of Newport Rhode Island. Or the little pocket prayer book that crossed the Atlantic with a woman leaving Germany in 1875. Then there's the "Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States" with the Hebrew and Jewish-German (Yiddish) texts included.

If history were taught this way in schools, we'd all be history scholars. Special Bar/Bat Mitzvah gift.

Listen to Her Voice: Women of the Hebrew Book

By Mikki Raver
Chronicle Books/Distributed by Raincoast Books
Hardcover, 1998 (full-colour paintings)

My daughter received this book a year ago for her Bat Mitzvah and we've enjoyed leafing through it ever since. It is exquisite, illustrated as it is with glorious paintings from Rubens, Raphael, Tintoretto, Chagall, Tissot ... and the list goes on. The author has taken the stories of 18 (*chat*) women from the Bible and brought them to life. Eve, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, Leah, Dina, Tamar, Miriam, Deborah, Delilah, Hannah, Abigail, Bathsheba, the Queen of Sheba, Jezebel, Ruth, Naomi, and Esther are given voices through the somewhat reinterpreted words and modern translations of the Bible first, and then from the author's own perspective. Raver has reclaimed for us the lives of the matriarchs who are often forgotten and certainly not as intimately known as they could be.

To Life! L'Chaim!

Prayers and Blessings for the Jewish Home
edited by Rabbi Michael Shire
Chronicle/Distributed by Raincoast Books
Hardcover, 2000 (colour illuminations)

"Prayer cannot bring water to parched fields, nor mend a broken bridge, nor rebuild a ruined city; but prayer can water an arid soul, mend a broken heart and rebuild a weakened will." No one could have said it better than Abraham Joshua Heschel

Rabbi Michael Shire is the Director of London's Centre for Jewish Education. The prayers he has chosen for this exquisite book mark all the family milestones, allowing us to acknowledge the events that happen in a lifetime. Prayers for fertility and creation, for Bar and Bat Mitzvah, for birthdays and leaving home, for celebrating commitment, for

death and mourning, are in here. There are prayers for honouring the months, Shabbat, and some of the major holidays, daily blessings, meditations and prayers for healing.

Each page is illustrated with illuminated manuscripts – both from Ashkenazi and Sephardi sources – dating from the 13th to 18th centuries. A beautiful gift for any home, even yours!

The Jewish Family Fun Book

By Danielle Dardashti and Roni Sarig
Jewish Lights Publishing
Softcover, 2002
252 pages

When my children were younger, I was always looking for Jewish craft and activity books. This one would have been a great resource. It gets every family member involved in celebrating Jewish life, whether it's through one of our many holidays, weekly Shabbat, or with projects that families can undertake to imbue their daily lives with Judaism. The book's holiday crafts and observance ideas, outdoor activities, volunteer initiatives, best music, books, videos, computer software and family-friendly web-sites will keep any family busy for an enriching year. This book also lists American Jewish sites, kosher restaurants, and Jewish family camps.

This month at the Greenberg Families Library:

The Ottawa Jewish Film Society presents its second program of the season, another double feature, on Sunday, December 8 at 2:00 pm. "Everlasting Joy: Or, the Life and Adventures of Baruch Spinoza as Reported By His Vigilant Neighbours" is an 85-minute award-winning comedy made in 1996 about six hard-working neighbours, the joys of love, the sufferings of war, and a broken washing-machine. In Hebrew with English sub-titles. It will be followed by "Pillar of Salt", a 1980 film that captures the cultural richness and social complexity of a Jewish boy's life in Tunisia, North Africa. 58 minutes. Both films are open to SJCC and Library members.

VOLUNTEER CORNER

Volunteer Opportunities

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

- Isolated seniors living in Alta Vista, Lincoln Fields, Trend Arlington/Craig Henry, New Edinburgh, Centretown and Hunt Club would greatly benefit from and appreciate a friendly visit from those in the community who are able to spare an hour or two a week. Reward-immeasurable.

- Teleconferencing ... new JFS initiative is looking for you if you are interested in helping seniors stay connected with each other and the outside world during the long winter months. Ideal candidate will possess some moderating skills and a keen interest in issues of the day

- If you have an interest in literacy, teaching English as a second language or are simply interested in helping young day school students with their English skills then we have opportunities for you. Hours are flexible.

- Drivers are urgently needed on the last Monday of each month to help deliver produce to those in need. Two drivers are needed for the west end between Carlingwood and Lincoln Fields and one is needed for deliveries in the downtown area.

For more information on any of the above, please call Beverly Grossen (304) or Roslyn Wollock (313) at 722-2225

These are just a few of many volunteer opportunities available in our community

*For more information about volunteering,
call 798-4696, ext 299.*



Best Wishes for a Happy Chanukah

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Leon and Zelde Zelikovitz on the engagement of their daughter Karen Io Ben by Ruth and Irving Aaron.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Ruth and Irving Aaron.

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In memory of:

Louis Woolf by Dorothy and Herb Nadolny, and by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor.

HILDA AGES MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sam Ages on being the recipient of the Raoul

Weilberg Award for Humanitarian Services and on his special birthday by Miriam Ben-Shalom.

MARY AND ISRAEL (AL) ALICE MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Albert Rivers by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

Tillie Shapiro by Beverly and Irving Swedko.

Morris Cantor by Beverly and Irwin Swedko.

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Mazel Tov to:

Anita and Mendel Shore on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Zac by Bella Altman-Leikin.

APPOTIVE FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Edith and Dave Appotive; and by Sharon Appotive and Jeff Appotive.

DRIRS, EDWARD AND ARNIE ASTOFF MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Adam Kahn on his Bar Mitzvah by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

Rose Kahn on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson Adam by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

Linda and David Kahn on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Adam by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

Moe and Bea Lesser family for a happy anniversary and wonderful vacation trip by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

The Kershman family on the Bar Mitzvah of Zev and Bat Mitzvah of Kayla by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

In observance of the Yahrtzeit of:

Doris Astroff, a dear mother and grandmother by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

Amie Astroff, a dear mother and uncle by Vivian Astroff and Mark and Eric Buckson.

RICKI AND BARRY BAKER ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sylvia and Morton Pleet on their 50th wedding anniversary by Ricki and Barry Baker and family.

In memory of Albert Rivers by Ricki and Barry Baker and family.

CLAIRE AND IRVING BERCOVITCH ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Claire and Irving Bercoffitch on the Bar Mitzvah of their granddaughters Jessica Firestone and Lindsay Firestone by Norman and Elsa Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

Mazel Tov to Irving Bercoffitch on his birthday by Norman and Elsa Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

RUTH AND GERALD BERGER FAMILY FUN

Mazel Tov to:

Ruth Berger on the birth of her granddaughter by Mary Oavis, Director - Board and Staff of the Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation - United Jewish Appeal of Ottawa, and by Kaysa and Alfie Friedman.

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Ruth Aaron by Shirley and Shier Berman.

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Sam Blair, a dear brother by Ellen Lithwick and family.

CYNTHIA AND DAVID BLUMENTHAL ENDOWMENT FUND

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David Blumenthal on his special birthday by Mary and Izzy Farber.

RIDNAUD BDDNOFF MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Phyllis Rackow on her special birthday by Rhoda Bonhoff and family.

Continued on page 33

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Annel Goldberg on his special birthday by Edie Landau.

In memory of:

Asla Kuller by Annel Goldberg; by Simone Goldberg; and by Judy Ross.

Gaby Sasson by Arthur and Caroline Ginsberg; and by Vivian Astroff, Mark and Eric Buckson.

Ruth Cohen's father Eliezer by Arthur and Caroline Ginsberg.

GREENBERG FAMILIES LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:
The Shoah Committee/Greenberg Families Library for an excellent documentation of Hana's Suitcase by Ruth and Joe Viner.

Marjorie and Michael Feldman on the engagement of their son Mark to Allison by Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Caytak. With Appreciation to:

Estelle Gunnar by the Staff of the Greenberg Families Library.

Miriam Bloom Rabinovitch by the Staff of the Greenberg Families Library.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Roger Greenberg and Cindy Fein gold and family.

SOLDAY JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE ENDOWMENT FUND

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Dundi Sachs on her special birthday by Joan and Henry Bloom.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Pearl Taller, by Lori Taller and family.

By David and Suzanne Taller, by Valerie Taller and Fred Newbauer and family; and by Gloria and Martin Taller and family.

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Eric Ginsberg by Millie and Percy Weinstein.
Morris Cantor by Millie and Percy Weinstein.

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Mazel Tov to:

Orion Edelstein on the birth of her great-granddaughter by Sol and Sylvia Kalman.

Sol Kalman on his birthday by Robert Lebars and Donald Chem.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Sol and Sylvia Kalman; and by Mel and Arlene Schwey and Linda.

ARTHUR AND LINDA COGAN FUNDS FOR YOUNG WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

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Sandi and Eddy Cook on Cory's engagement to Alissa by Linda and Arthur Cogan.

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Linda and Arthur Cogan on their 35th wedding anniversary by Raymond and Natalie Stein.

In memory of:

Gerl Goldstein by Linda and Arthur Cogan.
Albert Rivers by Linda and Arthur Cogan.
Asla Kuler by Linda and Arthur Cogan.

MAX AND GRETE COHEN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Tillie Shapiro by Fem Cohen.
Morris Cantor by Fem and Ed Cohen.

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With appreciation to:

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With appreciation to:

One Greenberg by Shelley, Nicolas and Scott Slack.

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Mazel Tov to:

Edith (Buddy) Kizell on her special birthday by Cynthia Engel.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Cynthia Engel.
Tillie Shapiro by Cynthia Engel.

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Mazel Tov to:

Vera Klein on assuming the Deputy Chair General

Division State of Israel Bonds by Ellen, Ray, Michael and Tamara.

ROSE AND DAVID FINE MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

David Blumenthal on his special birthday by Paula and Bobby Smith.

In memory of:

In memory of Gerl Goldstein by Paula and Bobby Smith.

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Tania Firestone on the B'nai Mitzvah of her granddaughters Lindsay Firestone and Jessica Firestone by Norman and Elsa Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

SAM AND SUSAN FIRESTONE ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sam and Susan Firestone on the B'nai Mitzvah of their daughters Jessica and Lindsay by aunt Elsa and uncle Norman Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

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Mazel Tov to:

Ruth Berger on the birth of granddaughter by Margo and Gordon Roston.

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Evelyn Stone's brother by Kaysa and Alfred Friedman.

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Zvi Hemmer by Oanny and Kinneret Globerman and family.

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Mazel Tov to:

Sarah and Mark Weinberg on the birth of their granddaughter Joelle Morgan by Vera and Malcolm Glube.

In memory of:

Sarbel Goldin's sister Fay by Bev, Bryan, Alison and Robbie Glube.

Morris Cantor by Vera and Malcolm Glube.

Albert Rivers by Vera and Malcolm Glube.

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R'fuah sh'l'mah to:

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EVIA, DIANE AND JACK GOLDFIELD MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Morley Goldfield and family.

JACK AND GERT GOLSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Gerl Goldstein by Barb and Len Farber.

JEFFREY AND ENID GOLO FAMILY FUND

With appreciation to:

Enid and Jett Gould by Marcie and Charles Rak.

Mazel Tov to:

ROSE AND DAVID FINE MEMORIAL FUND

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Elaine and Barry Mintz on the birth of their granddaughter Joelle Morgan by Enid and Jeff Gould.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fleisher on the birth of their great-granddaughter Joelle Morgan by Enid and Jeff Gould.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Weinberg on the birth of their granddaughter Joelle Morgan and on the engagement of their son Robbie to Robyn by Enid and Jeff Gould and family.

R'fuah sh'l'mah to:

Francoise Vexler by Enid and Jeff Gould.

In memory of:

Louis Wollf by Enid and Jeff Gould and family.

JACK AND TANIA FIRESTONE ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Tania Firestone on the B'nai Mitzvah of her granddaughters Lindsay Firestone and Jessica Firestone by Norman and Elsa Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

SAM AND SUSAN FIRESTONE ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sam and Susan Firestone on the B'nai Mitzvah of their daughters Jessica and Lindsay by aunt Elsa and uncle Norman Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

GEORGE AND MARY GOLDBERG ENOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sam and Susan Firestone on the B'nai Mitzvah of their daughters Jessica and Lindsay by aunt Elsa and uncle Norman Swedko, Peter and Stacey.

LAURA AND MILTON GREENBERG FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Moms Cantor by Laura Greenberg and family.

TEENA AND WALTER HENDLMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Teena and Walter Hendelman by Devora Browns.

HILLEL LODGE LEGACY FUND

R'fuah sh'l'mah to:

Natalie Stem by Carole and Norman Zagerman.

Ruth Kizell by Batya and Sid Finkelhan.

In memory of:

Moe (Mischa) Geflman by Carole and Norman Zagerman.

Gerl Goldstein by Laraine and Victor Kaminsky.

HY ANO PAULINE NOCHNER ENDOWMENT FUND

In appreciation to:

Or, Sharon Rubin by Pauline Hochberg.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Pauline Hochberg.

RHEA AND JOEFF NOCHNSTAETER FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Rhea and Jeff Hochstetler on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Lome by Julius and Clair Krantzberg.

DOROTHY AND HY HYMES ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Etzel Benoway on her very special birthday by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

Sylvia and Morton Pfeel on their 50th wedding anniversary by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

Riki Saslove on her special birthday by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

Phyllis Rackow on her special birthday by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

Dorothy and Hy Hymes on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Lome Hochstetler by Julius and Clair Krantzberg.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

Albert Rivers by Dorothy and Hy Hymes.

JEWISH MEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Charles Schachnow on his 40th birthday by Norman, Sandra and David Slover.

ROSE AND MAXWELL KALMAN ENOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Phyllis Rackow on her special birthday by Laya and Michael Abramowitz.

GEREMY KANTER MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Eric Ginsberg by Evelyn and Lou Eisenberg; and by Julia Karter, Osnat and Jonah.

Morris Cantor by Evelyn and Lou Eisenberg.

CLAIRE AND ABE KEVANSTEIN ENOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Ted and Laya Jacobsen on the birth of their grandson Cory Vernon Dancy by Claire Kevanstein and Sharon Herms.

ARTHUR AND SARAH KIMMEL MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Fleisher on the birth of their great-granddaughter and wishing Harry Fleisher a very happy

birthday by Roslyn and Amie Kimmel.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Norm and Isabel Lesh.

KOFFMAN-BLOOM FAMILIES ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Al Bloom by Mr. and Mrs. S. Steinmetz.

SHARON KOFFMAN ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of:

Al Bloom by Olene Mintz.

James Zagor by Diane Mintz.

Momis Cantor by Fay and Barry Koffman.

DR. ERWIN AND EDIE KORANYI ENDOWMENT FUND

R'fuah sh'l'mah to:

Edie Koranyi by Carole and Norman Zagerman.

ISSIE AND EDITH LANDAU ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Vicky Weiss on the opening of her new business by Edie Landau.

HARRY LEIKIN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sam Ages on being the recipient of the Raoul Wallenberg Humanitarian Services and on his special birthday by Libby and Stan Katz.

In memory of:

Zahav Athias by Stan and Libby Ketz; and by Barb, Len, Steven and Michael Farber.

Mel Goldberg by Barb and Len Farber.

Arthur Rudy by Barb and Len Farber.

NORMAN AND ISABEL LESN ENOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Norm Lesh on his special birthday by the A.K. Boys at the Sunday Morning Coffee Club.

In appreciation to:

Sandra and Norm Slover by Norman Lesh.

SAMUEL AND MARY LESN MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Tillie Shapiro by Ida and Bernie Lesh.

SALLY AND ELLIOTT LEVITAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Oundi Sachs on her special birthday by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

Eliel Benoway on her very special birthday by Carole and Norman Zagerman.

In memory of:

Moms Cantor by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

NATHAN AND LAURIE LEVITIN MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Ruth Berger on the birth of her granddaughter by Miriam Levitin.

Doris Edelstein on the birth of her great-granddaughter by Miriam Levitin.

In memory of:

Nathan and Laurie Levitin by Miriam Levitin.

JOSEPH AND EVELYN LIEFF ENOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Rhea and Jeff Hochstetler on the Bar Mitzvah of their son Lome by France and Norman Lieff and family; and by Elissa Lieff and David Resnick, Zac and Kayla.

Mazel Tov to Audrey and Irwin Kreisman on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter Arielle by Francie and Norman Lieff and family.

DAVIO LOEB FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Jacques Zinman on his special birthday by Adele and David Loeb.

SAMUEL AND LEEMA MAGISON ENOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Leema Magison and family.

MARION AND SHLOMO MAYMAN ENOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Marjone and Michael Feldman on the engagement of their son Mark to Alison by Shlomo and Marion Mayman.

Continued on page 34

In Appreciation

We would like to thank all our family and friends for their kindness and expressions of condolence on the loss of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Charles Benoy. All the heartfelt donations, visits, cards and phone calls offered comfort and support at a difficult time. A sincere thank you to everyone.

Bess, Shirley Anne and Barry and families

FOUNDATION DONATIONS

R'Yueh sh'l'mah to:
Edna Goldfarb by Marion and Shlomo Mayman.

M'DRIS M'DLDT MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Dave and Lotte Motol on their 60th wedding anniversary and Son's special birthday by Sally and Elliott Levitan.

In memory of:

Albert Rivers by Dave and Lotte Motol.

JACK AND HONEY MDNSDN ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Honey and Jack Baylin; and by Sally Taller.

PEARL AND DAVID MDSKOVIC ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Pearl and David Moskovic.

JEAN AND MAX NAEMARK ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Jean Naemark on her special birthday by Bea Toronto and family.

OTTAWA TORAH INSTITUTE EDUCATION FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Dr. Jozef and Vera Strauss on the engagement of their son Daniel to Daveda by Irvin, Ari, Uriel, Avive and Noam Hirshberg; and by Marty Davis, Director, Ottawa Jewish Community Foundation/United Jewish Appeal Board and Staff.

DSCAR AND NINA PETGORSKY FAMILY MEMDRIAL FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

A dear father Oscar Petgorsky by Minna Petgorsky and Sam Petgorsky.

HARRY AND BERTHA PLEET MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sylvia and Morton Pleet on their 50th wedding anniversary by Finchas "Pinky" and Barbara Pleet.

JACK AND MIRIAM PLEET ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Morton and Sylvia Pleet on their 50th wedding anniversary by Jack and Miriam Pleet.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Jack and Miriam Pleet.

Tilie Shapiro by Jack and Miriam Pleet.

BETTY AND DAVE POLOWIN MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Steve and Heidi Polowin.

NORMAN AND EVELYN POTECHIN ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Agnes and Earl Potechin on their 7th wedding anniversary by eun Evelyn and uncle Norman Potechin.

Joel Scher on his birthday by aunt Evelyn and uncle Norman Potechin.

Cathy Potechin on her special birthday by aunt Evelyn and uncle Norman Potechin.

Joseph Potechin on his 21st birthday by aunt Evelyn and uncle Norman Potechin.

Shanon Gordon on her 20th birthday by aunt Evelyn and uncle Norman Potechin.

In memory of:

Evelyn Bernstein's sister Ivy by Norman and Evelyn Potechin; and by Era and Moishe, Dodi and Bram and Elizabeth and Eric.

Judy Wolfe's aunt by Norman and Evelyn Potechin; and by Era and Moishe, Dodi and Bram and Elizabeth and Eric.

SARAH AND MDE RESNICK ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Sam and Roberta Goldmaker.

GOLDIE AND ALBERT RIVERS ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Albert Rivers by Gladys Bodenoff; by the partners of Ginsberg, Gluzman, Fege and Levitz; by his friends and colleagues of the Jacob M. Lowy Collection; by Barb and Len Farber; by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor; and by Dorothy and Herb Nadolny.

Morris Cantor by Stephen, Lindi, Sophie and Tala Rivers.

BEN AND MARY RDSENBLATT MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of:

Ben Rosenblatt by Barb, Len, Steven and Michael Farber.

SAMUEL AND RUTH RDTHMAN MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Leonard Shore on the engagement of his son Jason by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor and family.

In memory of:

In memory of Florence Welsz by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor and family.

ANNE AND IRVING SABRAN MEMDRIAL FUND

In appreciation to:

Lea and Yizchak Kalin by Sandra, Jeff and Aron Fishbain.

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Irving (Izzy) Sabran, a beloved father and grandfather by Sandra, Jeff and Aron Fishbain.

Anne (Cohen) Sabran, a beloved mother and grandmother by Sandra, Jeff and Aron Fishbain.

William (Biffy) Goldenberg by Sandra Fishbain and Hermie Halpern.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Sandra, Jeff and Aron Fishbain and Hermie Halpern.

HELEN AND ROY SAIFE ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Helen Saife.

HERMINA SCHACHNDW MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Charles Schachnow on his 40th birthday by Merle, Stephanie and Ashley; by Isabelle and Allan Cantor; and by Ken Schachnow.

SYD AND SHIRLEY SCHECTER ENDOWMENT FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Rebecca Gelman, a dear sister by Ann Schechter.

Sadie Cahn, a dear sister by Ann Schechter.

ELIEZER SCHACTER, A DEAR LATHER BY ANN SCHACTER

In memory of:

Eliezer Schechter, a dear lather by Ann Schechter.

SHMUEL AND LEA SCHREIBER MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Reva Rotenberg.

Mattie and Yossie Sherman's father by Reva and David Rotenberg.

CLARE AND MAURICE SCHWARTZ FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Edith (Buddy) Kizell on her special birthday by Clare Schwartz and David Kronick.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Clare Schwartz and David Kronick.

HAROLD SHAFFER MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Tilie Shapiro by Frances Shaffer and Dorothy Sheffer.

HARRY AND SYLVIA SHINDER MEMDRIAL FUND

R'Yueh sh'l'mah to:

Karen Klein by Ethel and David Malek.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Ethel and David Malek.

LIDNEI AND LESLIE SHINDER MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Jason Shinder on his special birthday by aul Selaine and uncle Sol Shinder.

DR. ROBERT NDHRMAN SHDIHET MEMDRIAL FUND

In observance of the Yahrzeit of:

Dr. Norman Shohat, a dear husband and father on his 5th Yahrtzeit by Lilian, Stephen and Joel Shohat.

BESSIE AND ABRAHAM SHUSTER MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of Morris Redner by Bruria and Ead Cooperman.

LDUS AND STELLA SLACK MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Harvey Slack on being the recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Award by Myra, Lester, Jennifer, Onna, Gregory and Jordan Aronson.

In memory of:

Tilie Shapiro by Gary Meyers and Bonnie Carroll; and by Stacie Carroll and Rob Duncan.

SAM AND SUE SLACK ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Kayla Kershner on her Bat Mitzvah and Zvi Kershner on his Bar Mitzvah by Joy, Seymour, Jess, David and Jared Appolito.

Carol and Stanley Kershner on the Bar Mitzvah of their daughter Kayla and the Ber Mitzvah of their son Zev by Sharon, David, Ryan, Jaye and Brody Appolito.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Joy, Seymour, Jess, David and Jared Appolito; and by Sharon, David, Ryan, Jaye and Brody Appolito.

HARRIET AND IRVING SLONE ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Harriet and Irving Sloane on their 50th wedding anniversary.

sary by Sandra and Nan Thomas.

JACK AND LINDA SMITH ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Jack, Linda and David Smith.

Elie Rotter's brother by Jack, Linda and David Smith, and by Leiba and Robert Krantzberg and family.

LAURA AND GDRDDN SPERGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Marin Ginsburg on his special birthday by Laura and Gordon Spergel.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Laura and Gordon Spergel.

LOUIS AND LEAH STEINBERG MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of:

Joyce Steinberg, a dear aul, by Shire Steinberg Lion; and by Elana B. Steinberg.

NATHAN AND THELMA STEINMAN ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Sylvia and Morton Pleet on their 50th wedding anniversary by Thelma Steinman.

WILLIAM "BILL" STEINBERG MEMDRIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Laya and Ted Jacobsen on the birth of their grandson Cory Vernon Dancey by Shirley and Victor Steinberg.

Stephanie and Wayne Dancey on the birth of their son Cory Vernon Dancey by Bubby Laya and Zaidy Ted Jacobsen.

MAT AND PHYLLIS STERNTHAL FAMILY FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Phyllis and Max Sternthal.

Lillian Sandler by Phyllis and Max Sternthal.

Albert Rivers by Phyllis and Max Sternthal.

JAY B. TALLER MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of:

Albert Rivers by Sally and Morton Taller.

SAMUEL AND ANNE TALLER ENDOWMENT FUND

R'Yueh sh'l'mah to:

Edna Goldfarb by Anne Taller.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Anne Taller.

CLAIRE AND SAM TANNER MEMDRIAL FUND

In memory of:

Myer Karon by Lana and Stephen Tanner and family.

THE TARANTOUR FAMILY FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Phyllis Rackow on her special birthday by Ann Lazear.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Ann Lazear.

CHARLES AND RAE TAVEL MEMORIAL FUND

Mazel Tov to:

Morton and Sylvia Pleet on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Continued on page 35

Carlson Wagonlit Travel

TWO EXCITING JEWISH HERITAGE TOURS

JEWISH ITALY

March 23rd to April 3rd, 2003

Visit Rome, Venice, Florence, Siena
Tour the Jewish & historic areas
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PRICE: \$4600 CAD double occupancy

Single room add \$1100 CAD

Both tours include return airfare, deluxe accommodation, daily breakfast,
some meals (kosher available), guided tours, entrance fees, escorted from Canada.

An information evening will be held early December with regard to the above tours.

Host Robert Holzberg will be in attendance. He will review the itineraries
and present video coverage of the areas involved.

For more information and reservations for the information evening, call 238-4040

Sandy Granatstein, ext. 224, or Nancy Borer, ext 232

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Visit the Jewish and historic highlights
of these three cities

PRICE: \$4300 CAD double occupancy

Single room add \$900 CAD

Both tours include return airfare, deluxe accommodation, daily breakfast,
some meals (kosher available), guided tours, entrance fees, escorted from Canada.

An information evening will be held early December with regard to the above tours.

Host Robert Holzberg will be in attendance. He will review the itineraries
and present video coverage of the areas involved.

DELUXE EXCLUSIVE COACH TOURS

STRATFORD

JUNE 24-26, 2003

\$549.00

Prices include deluxe coaches from Ottawa, best hotels in Stratford
and Niagara-on-the-Lake, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches or dinners,
best available theatre tickets and more! Personally escorted by Sandy Granatstein.

Register Now! Space is limited to 50 participants per tour. No deposit required. Full payment due in January when theatre schedule is announced. Price is based on double occupancy in hotels. Single occupancy available at additional cost. Share program available... ask for details. This program is an AJA 50+ exclusive. AJA 50+ Membership (\$25.00) necessary in order to participate.

Call to register: 238-4040

Sandy at ext. 224

or Jodie at ext. 228

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SEPTEMBER 9-11, 2003

\$599.00

Prices include deluxe coaches from Ottawa, best hotels in Stratford
and Niagara-on-the-Lake, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches or dinners,
best available theatre tickets and more! Personally escorted by Sandy Granatstein.

Register Now! Space is limited to 50 participants per tour. No deposit required. Full payment due in January when theatre schedule is announced. Price is based on double occupancy in hotels. Single occupancy available at additional cost. Share program available... ask for details. This program is an AJA 50+ exclusive. AJA 50+ Membership (\$25.00) necessary in order to participate.

Call to register: 238-4040

Sandy at ext. 224

or Jodie at ext. 228

Carlson Wagonlit Travel

Email: sgranatstein@carlsonwagonlit.ca

FOUNDATION DONATIONS

sey by Sunny and John Tavel.

GILAD, ARNI AND RON VERED ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Zahava Atias by Amie and Liz Vered.

SARA AND ZEEV VERED ISRAEL CULTURAL PROGRAM ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Zeev Vered on being the recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal for Distinguished Service by Edie Landau.

STEPHEN AND GAIL VICTOR ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Morton and Sylvia Fleet on their 50th wedding anniversary by Stephen and Gail Victor.

In memory of:

Rita Appel by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor.

Morris Cantor, a dear uncle by Gail and Stephen Victor, Andrea, Jodie and Jordana.

Albert Rivers, a dear uncle by Gail and Stephen Victor, Andrea, Jodie and Jordana.

WASERMAN FAMILY MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of:

Rita Appel by Arlene and Mel Schwey, Karen and Andre and Jessica and Ian.

MIRIAM AND LOUIS WEINER ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Nathan Godfrey on his special birthday by Miriam and Louis Weiner.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Miriam and Louis Weiner.

IRVING AND DIANE WEXLER FAMILY FUND

R'fuah sh'lema to:

Raymond Hnatlyshyn by Diane Wexler.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Diane Wexler.

MORRIS AND MARIETTE WOOLFSON ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Mariette Woolfson on her birthday by Roslyn and Gerry Snyder.

R'fuah sh'lema to:

Raye Singerman by Roslyn and Gerry Snyder.

SAM AND HELENE ZARET ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by the Zaret family.

NATHAN, DAVID AND MAX ZELIKOVITZ FAMILIES FUND

In memory of:

Michael Benjamin by Marlene Burack.

Morris Cantor by Marlene, Howard and Neil Burack.

SAM AND SANDRA ZUNDER ENDOWMENT FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Sam and Sandra Zunder our beloved parents on their 50th wedding anniversary by Allan and Rothman, Rachel and Mirra Zunder.

Shelley Schechnow on her special birthday by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

Morton Teller on his second Bar Mitzvah by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

Evelyn and Lou Eisenberg on their 55th wedding anniversary, and on Lou's birthday by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

Wishing a Wonderful Winter to:

Lou and Evelyn Eisenberg by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Isabel and Norman Lesh by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Evelyn and Norman Potechin by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

Mauseen and Is Shinder by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Shelley and Morris Schachnow by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

R'fuah sh'lema to:

Lillian Teller by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

Edie Goldfarb by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

In memory of:

Li Lang by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Anna Saslove by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Allan Schneiderman by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Gert Goldstein by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Albert Rivers by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Morris Cantor by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Sara Lebow by Sam and Sandra Zunder, Joyce Steinberg by Sam and Sandra Zunder.

B'NAI MITZVAH CLUB

JAMIE BEREZIN

B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

R'fuah sh'lema to:

Eva Gordier by Sheldon and Corinne Taylor and family.

In memory of:

Morris Cantor by Tam and Robert Berezin and Eva Gentler.

RYAN GOLDBERG

B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

R'fuah sh'lema to:

aunt Ida Bernstein by Mary and Len Potechin.

In memory of:

aunt Eva Bernstein's sister Ivy by Mary and Len Potechin.

STACEY SAMANTHA KATZ

B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Ariella Kreisman on her Bat Mitzvah by Stacey Katz, Jessica Firestone on her Bat Mitzvah by Stacey Katz, Lindsay Firestone on her Bat Mitzvah by Stacey Katz, Lisa Elkin on her Bat Mitzvah by Stacey Katz.

EVAN NACEL MACKAY B'NAI MITZVAH FUND

R'fuah sh'lema to:

Velma Mackay by Henri Nadel and family.

In memory of:

Paulina Waltham by Henri Nadel and family.

MARK NADOLNY B'NAI MITZVAN FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Dorothy and Herb Nadolny on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Mark by Clair and Julius Krantzberg.

MARSHALL ROTTMAN B'NAI MITZVAN FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Daniel Rubenstein on his Bar Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman.

Bryan Garber on his Bar Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman, Jessica Firestone on her Bat Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman.

Lindsay Firestone on her Bat Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman.

Ariella Kreisman on her Bat Mitzvah by Marshall Rothman.

JD NATHAN SHERMAN B'NAI MITZVAN FUND

Mazal Tov to:

Norma Goldstein on her special birthday by Bea and Murray Garces.

ALAYNA THAW B'NAI MITZVAN FUND

With appreciation to:

Barbara Thaw by Kayla Mallay.

Contributions may be made by phoning Kayla Mallay at 798-4696 extension 274, Monday to Friday. We have voice mail.

Our e-mail address is kmalley@ccot-tawa.com Attractive cards are sent to convey the appropriate sentiments.

All donations are acknowledged with an official receipt for income tax purposes.

We accept Visa and MasterCard.

Global Shtetl The Jewish Internet

Saul Silverman

At Chanukah last year, I focused on the history of the wars against the Syrian Greeks. These wars lasted a number of generations and began a period of general change in Jewish society.

In the aftermath of the major Maccabean victory, which led to the re-sanctification of the Temple (the key event that is celebrated at Chanukah), an interesting twist emerged. The key national institutions of the Jewish revival – the Hasmonean monarchy and the priesthood – took on, over time, trappings of the surrounding Hellenistic culture (though a barrier was still maintained against the most offensive Greek practices).

Eventually, when Rabbinic Judaism emerged, it reinforced the stand against a corrodig paganism, but adopted some tools from the Greeks (for example, an advanced system of logical analysis applied to Hallachic exegesis). At about the same time, Jewish communities and commerce developed throughout the Hellenistic world, and the Greek language and some everyday practices of that world spread among the Jews.

For most of our history, Jews have lived in close proximity to other nations and cultures. For Jews, the recurring question is how we maintain our own culture and practices, while living in societies dominated by others. What can we adopt and where do we draw the line? Another dimension of Jewish history is what kind of society is needed to sustain the community and the general social good and, at the same time, to maintain conditions in which Jews and Judaism can live and flourish.

Jewish history: survival among the nations

These are "big issues" to deal with in understanding our history. A simple and concise place to start is a Jewish history site at http://www.ujfmetrowest.org/content_display.html?ArticleID=7879. This provides an overview of Jewish history on a single web page and a brief history of Zionism and Israel on a second page. A more ample, detailed chronology is presented in an associated time line at <http://www.jajz-ed.org.il/history/body.htm>. There are other good timelines on the PBS site and the [aish.com](http://www.aish.com) site that follow.

Two different introductions

PBS's site was developed in the late 1980s for a series called "Heritage: Civilization and the Jews" and was updated a few years ago (<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/heritage>). Aish.com, the Orthodox outreach center, has developed A Crash Course in Jewish History (<http://www.aish.com/literacy/jewishhistory>). Both sites are well implemented and suitable for the Internet user who wants a good, detailed introduction to Jewish history.

The two sites are quite different in orientation. As its subtitle indicates, the PBS site is explicitly oriented to Jews and Jewish beliefs in successive world cultures. The Jews are seen as major contributors to western civilization and a test of the quality of each civilization. This is probably the standard version of Jewish history, widely accepted in North America.

PBS's Jewish history provides ample documentation and illustrations for each of its nine episodes. These are almost evenly divided between the period in which Judaism developed and the modern period, with one episode on the transition period from the expulsion from Spain to the French Revolution. Altogether, it is an attractive, well-organized, presentation.

The Aish site is more concerned with the internal development of Judaism and what this has meant for Jews (as one would expect from an Orthodox site). The Aish site is

optimistic in a different way than PBS, in terms of the strength and inherent quality of Judaism in and of itself, despite the vagaries and uncertainties of the general surrounding societies.

The Aish "crash course" also has ample material, including audio-video lectures. But it is a bit confusing since its 68 episodes are presented in a somewhat random reverse order. A straight chronological sequence would be much more user-friendly.

More detail

For more detail, I recommend two sites. An essential site is The Internet Jewish History Source Book (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/jewish/jewishbook.html>). This is one of a series of collections of history documents and commentaries, which are ample, representative, and fair, and are well regarded as major contributions to history on the web.

The best portal for modern Jewish historical scholarship is the search engine at the Hebrew University's Dinur Center for Research in Jewish History (<http://www.huji.ac.il/Dinur/index.htm>). Web material on a wide variety of Jewish historical themes can be accessed through five popup menus: "Periods and Topics," "Resources" (these first two menus are the most useful for the general researcher), "Academic World," "Organizations," and "Tools."

History is not the story of a past that is dead and gone. It can be a source of experience on which we draw to help shape our future. As the Yiddish poet and essayist, Peretz, wrote "A people's memory is history; and as a person without a memory, so a people without a history cannot grow wiser [and] better."

Note: As addresses tend to be lengthy, some may have been hyphenated when extended to another line. Readers should ignore hyphens unless there is a specific note that the hyphens are in the original address.

WHAT'S GOING ON

November 25 - December 8

For a detailed listing
visit www.jewishottawa.org
or www.ottawajewishbulletin.com



MONDAY
NOVEMBER 25

Cable 22,
5:30 pm

TUESDAY,
NOVEMBER 26

National Capital Jewish Christian Dialogue, Interfaith Meeting, noon.

Jewish Youth Library presents 8th Yahrzeit Hillel of the Lubavitcher, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, keynote speaker: Rabbi Yossi Jacobson, 8:00 p.m.

Annual Henry Pass Memorial presents a "Mystery Evening" mysteries by Jewish authors or with Jewish content, presented by Michael Murphy, of the Ottawa Public Library. Agudath Israel

Congregation, 1400 Coldry Avenue, 8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 30

Ottawa Jewish Community Chanukah Ball sponsored by all Ottawa synagogues, Agudath Israel Congregation, 1400 Coldry Avenue, 7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 1

Chanukah Fun for Preschoolers, Rambam-Maimonides School, 25 Esquimalt Avenue, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
SJCC/JET, Holiday Spirit - Chanukah, 1:00 p.m.
Chanukah Party, sponsored by the Auxiliary of Hillel Lodge, featuring "A Touch of Kiez," the Bess and Moe Greenberg Family Hillel Lodge, 10 Nodolny Sachs Private, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
11th Annual Menorah Lighting

presented by Rambam-Maimonides School, Carlingwood Mall, 5:00 p.m.
Israel House, The Veed Israel Cultural & Educational Program, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY
DECEMBER 2

OTC's Annual Chanukah Celebration at Ben Franklin Place, 101 Centrepointe Drive, 6:00 p.m.

Annual Parliament Hill Chanukah Menorah Lighting, presented by Canadian Friends of Chabad Lubavitch, Parliament Hill, 237-C Centre Block, Reading Room, 3:00 p.m.

TUESDAY
DECEMBER 3

Chanukah Party, The Redwoods Retirement Residence, 2605 Draper Avenue, 2:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 7

JESETTERS, Chanukah party for young adults in their 20s and 30s, Victoria Park Hotel Suites 377 O'Connor St., 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 8

The Ottawa Jewish Film Society presents "Everlasting Joy: or The Life and Adventures of Baruch Spinosa as reported by his Vigilant Neighbors". An award-winning Israeli comedy Hebrew - with English subtitles - also "Pillar of Salt" the life of a Jewish boy in Tunisia, 2:00 p.m.

JACS - Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Persons and Chemically Others, location varies, call - 282-0249 or email ottawa@jacs.ca.



CANDLELIGHTING

November 29 ⚡ 4:05 pm
December 6 ⚡ 4:02 pm
December 13 ⚡ 4:02 pm
December 20 ⚡ 4:04 pm
December 27 ⚡ 4:07 pm
January 3 ⚡ 4:13 pm
January 10 ⚡ 4:21 pm
January 17 ⚡ 4:29 pm
January 24 ⚡ 4:38 pm
January 31 ⚡ 4:48 pm

HOLD THE DATE!

December 9
THE AUTHOR TALKS
Morris Schnitzer
Soloway JCC

January 12, 2003
MUSIC IN THE TIME
OF THE BIBLE
with Joshua Jacobson
Temple Israel

January 19, 2003
Chamber Choir
MUSICA-EBRAICA
Concert
Temple Israel

Unless otherwise noted, activities take place at The Joseph and Rose Ages Family Building, 21 Nodolny Sachs Private

This information is taken from the community calendar maintained by the Jewish Community Campus of Ottawa Inc. Organizations which would like their events to be listed, no matter where they are to be held, should make sure they are recorded by Brenda Schafer, calendar coordinator at 798-9818 ext. 265. We have voice mail. Accurate details must be provided and all events must be open to the Jewish public. You may fax to 798-9839 or email to bschafer@jccottawa.com.

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Condolences

The CONDOLENCE COLUMN is offered as a public service to the community. There is no charge.

For a listing in this column, please call Kayla Mallay, 798-4696, ext. 274.

Voice mail is available.

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FOR JANUARY 20

JANUARY 15
FOR FEBRUARY 3

JANUARY 29
FOR FEBRUARY 17

FEBRUARY 12
FOR MARCH 3

MARCH 5
FOR MARCH 24

MARCH 19
FOR APRIL 7

APRIL 2
FOR APRIL 21

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